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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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March 3, 2023 • Vol. 4, Issue 149 • $5.99

Making sense of the world

# THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

# YOUNG SCIENTIST

*The Week Junior* interviews Bobbi Wilson, whose lanternfly project made national news p9

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Bobbi Wilson is a fourth grader in New Jersey.
- She gave her lanternfly collection to Yale University.
- Yale honored her with the title of "donor scientist."

# This week's big news

US soldiers arrive in Eastern Europe to support Ukraine.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Ukraine is home to seven UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Saint-Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv.

## A special hockey game

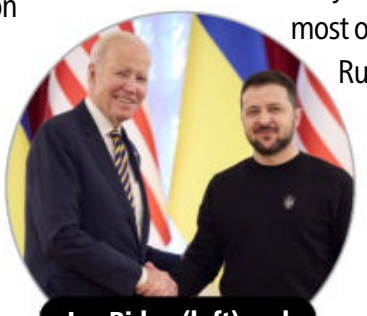
**On February 11, a crowd of about 18,000 people cheered on a Ukrainian youth hockey team playing in Canada. The squad defeated a team from Massachusetts in the annual Quebec International Pee-Wee Hockey tournament. After the game, both teams carried a Ukrainian flag around the ice in a show of support.**

# One year of Ukraine war marked

As the world prepared to mark one year since Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, US President Joe Biden made a surprise visit to Kyiv, Ukraine's capital, to affirm America's ongoing support. The visit came days after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky urged world leaders to speed up their assistance as a new phase of the war approaches.

### What is the war about?

The war is the largest in Europe since World War II (1939–1945). Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion because he believes Ukraine is part of Russia, not an independent country. Both nations were part of the Soviet Union (a group of 15 countries run by Russia) from 1922 to 1991. As the Soviet Union collapsed, Ukraine declared its independence. Putin has said that the two nations are "one people—a single whole" and that Ukraine is too close with the US and European countries he considers rivals of Russia.



Joe Biden (left) and Volodymyr Zelensky on February 20

### What is the status of the war?

Although Ukraine is smaller than Russia, it has held its own against the invading troops. The sides are currently locked in a prolonged battle over key regions in eastern and southern Ukraine, and neither shows signs of backing down. Over the winter, Russia has attacked many of Ukraine's utility providers, leaving millions of people without heat or electricity. Russia's leaders are believed to be planning an early-spring offensive, which Ukraine is preparing for with support from other nations. Military experts said they believe Ukraine plans to attack areas that are crucial to Russia's ability to bring in supplies from other locations.

### What are world leaders doing?

Ukraine has received billions of dollars' worth of financial support, weapons, and humanitarian aid from many countries, including the US, Canada, most of Europe, Japan, and South Korea. Russia has the support of Belarus, Iran, North Korea, China, and several African countries. On February 17, Zelensky spoke at a meeting of military and government officials in Germany, asking them to rush new military aid. During Biden's visit to Kyiv on February 20, he announced $500 million in new support for Ukraine. In Poland the next day, he met with leaders of other nations in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to shore up support for Ukraine. NATO is a military alliance of 30 countries created partly to defend against Russian aggression.

### Who else is helping and how?

The United Nations (organization of 193 nations working for peace and cooperation) asked its member nations for $5.6 billion for humanitarian aid in Ukraine. The funds would help 11.1 million Ukrainians who need food, water, shelter, medical care, and other lifesaving supplies. The money would also support more than 16 million Ukrainian refugees who have fled to other nations. Ukrainians have mostly settled in neighboring countries, including Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, and Lithuania. Charities, aid organizations, and citizens around the world are raising money and collecting supplies to help Ukrainians affected by the war.

### What will happen next?

On February 21, as *The Week Junior* went to press, Putin restated Russia's stance against Ukraine and its allies, while Biden said, "Our support for Ukraine will not waver." Military leaders will continue to plan for spring offensives. Russia is expected to move quickly, before Ukraine is armed with more tanks and weapons from other countries. Military experts have predicted a long war, but after Biden's visit to Kyiv, Zelensky said, "This conversation brings us closer to victory." He expressed hope that the war would end in 2023.

GETTY IMAGES (2); AP; ON RIGHT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); JUAN CARLOS SÁNCHEZ-NIVICELA/ARCHIVE MUSEO DE ZOOLOGÍA, UNIVERSIDAD SAN FRANCISCO DE QUITO; COURTESY MCDONALD'S; SEAS THE DAY 2022;

# Electric car sales surpass $1 trillion

For the first time, global sales of electric vehicles (EVs) topped more than $1 trillion. This number includes all EV sales since the cars became available about 10 years ago. According to a new report by BloombergNEF (a global research firm), EV sales rose by 53% from 2021 to 2022.

EVs have grown in popularity in recent years as the cost of the vehicles has dropped and more charging stations have been built. Other reasons for the increase in sales include the higher cost of gas, which EVs don't use, and concerns about the environment. Unlike gas-powered cars, EVs don't burn fossil fuels, which emit harmful greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

Although the EV market is growing, it is still a small percentage of the overall automobile market. By the end of 2023, only 3% of the 1.3 billion passenger cars on the road worldwide will be EVs. In 2022, global auto sales reached $2.5 trillion, while EV sales were $388 million. Automakers expect the EV market to break records this year, possibly exceeding $500 billion.

Electric cars for sale

**FUN FACT**
The world's smallest island nation, Nauru, is located between Australia and Hawaii.

Islands in Japan

# Japan has 7,000 more islands

Japan, a string of islands located throughout more than 1,500 miles of water in the North Pacific Ocean, has about 7,000 more islands than previously believed. A new survey by the Geospatial Information (GSI) Authority of Japan found that the country has about 14,125 islands.

The Japanese government last counted its islands in 1987 and determined that it had 6,852 islands with a circumference of 328 feet or more. However, that survey used paper maps and mistakenly listed several groups of small islands as one larger island. It also did not count numerous islands located in rivers and lakes.

A government official called for a new survey in 2021, saying it was "related to the national interest," according to Kyodo News. The new survey used an electronic map as well as photos taken from the air to get a more accurate count. The United Nations officially defines an island as "a naturally formed area of land, surrounded by water, which is above water at high tide," and experts used that definition to conduct their count.

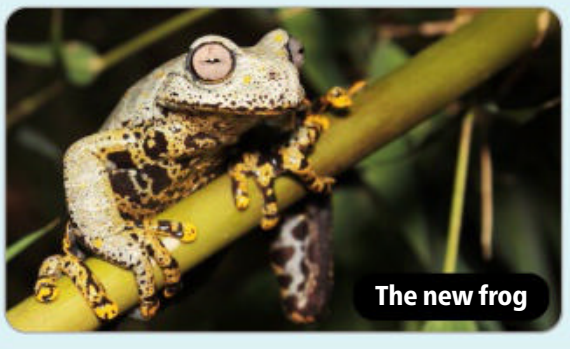
Islands in rivers and lakes, as well as new islands created by volcanic activity since the last survey, were included in the new count. Some areas of Japan were found to have huge numbers of islands. Nagasaki, for example, has about 1,479, while Hokkaido has about 1,473.

Despite the addition of many pieces of land, the total size of Japan's territory will most likely not change. The official number of new islands could change as the GSI completes the study, which is expected to be released in March.

## IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

### NAMING A NEW SPECIES

Scientists in Ecuador named a new species of stream frog after JRR Tolkien, author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. The research team said the frog, Hyloscirtus tolkieni, reminded them of creatures from Tolkien's "universe of fantasies."


The new frog

McPlant Nuggets

### GOING MEATLESS

A vegetarian version of McDonald's chicken McNuggets is now available in Germany. The company's 1,400 restaurants in that country will offer McPlant Nuggets made of peas, corn, and wheat. Diners there can also order a McPlant Burger. Neither option is available in the US.

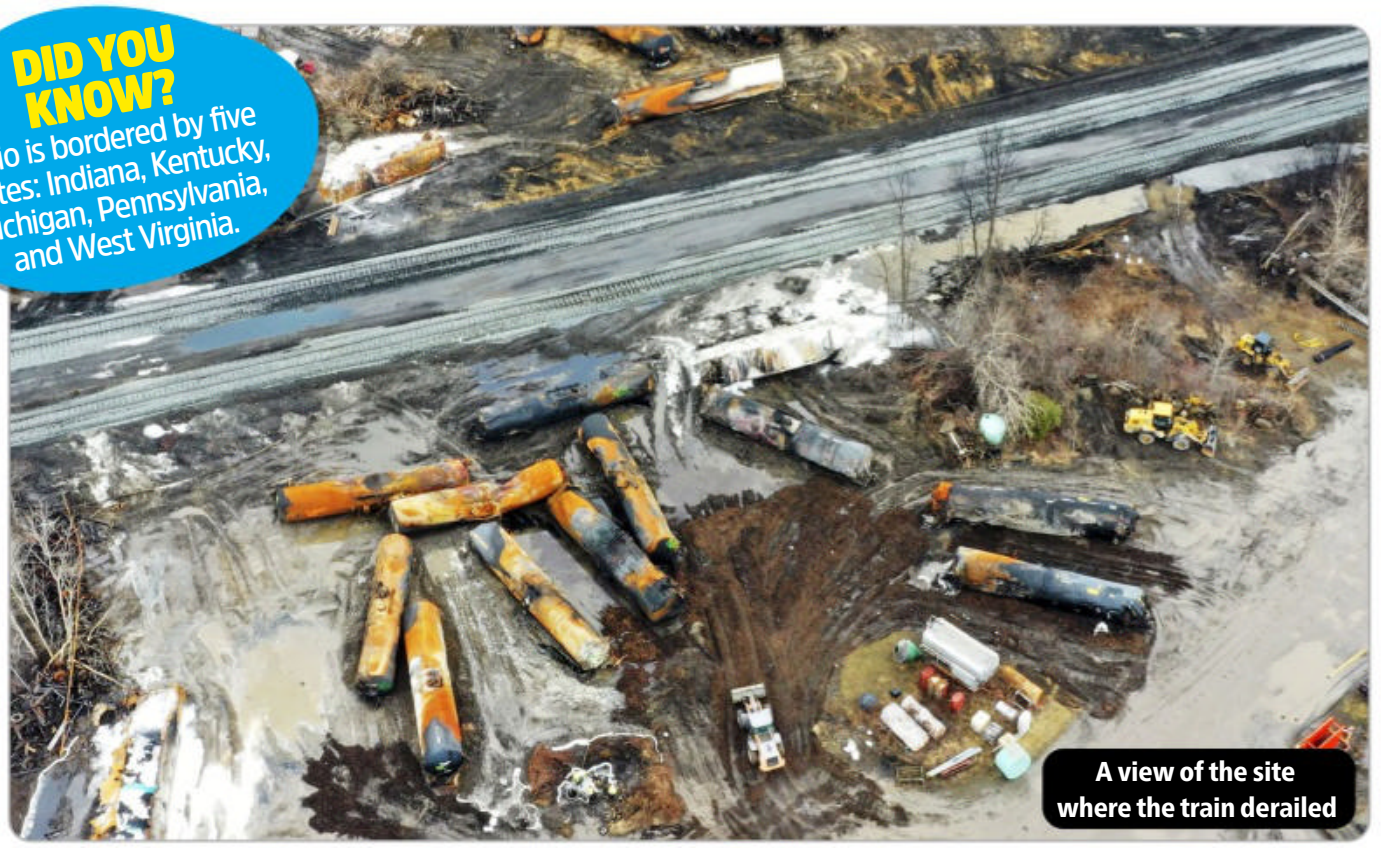
### A FEAT OF ENDURANCE

A UK woman set a record in an annual boat race across the Atlantic Ocean. Miriam Payne, age 23, rowed 3,000 miles from Spain to the Caribbean in 59 days, 16 hours, and 36 minutes—the fastest time by a solo female rower. The race raises money for charity. Despite many hard moments, "I really loved it out there," Payne said.

Miriam Payne

ON THE COVER: ANDREW HURLEY/YALE; GETTY IMAGES (2); MUSEO DE ZOOLOGÍA & LAB ZOOLOGÍA TERRESTRE USFQ

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Ohio is bordered by five states: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.



A view of the site where the train derailed

## Ohio fact file

- **NICKNAME** Buckeye State
- **HISTORY** Became the 17th state on March 1, 1803
- **CAPITAL** Columbus
- **POPULATION** 11.7 million (7th highest in the US)
- **SIZE** 44,826 square miles (34th largest)
- **STATE BIRD** Northern cardinal

# Concern increases after train accident

Residents of East Palestine, Ohio, a town of about 4,700 people near the Pennsylvania border, are calling for protection after a freight train derailed there, leading to the release of large quantities of chemicals into the water, air, and soil.

### What happened?

On February 3, a 150-car train loaded with toxic chemicals and flammable materials went off the tracks in East Palestine. Thirty-eight of the train cars derailed, starting a massive fire that damaged 12 other cars and blanketed the town in smoke. The train, operated by Norfolk Southern, was traveling from Illinois to Pennsylvania when a wheel bearing (a set of steel balls that help wheels spin) overheated. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating. No one was injured.

### What was the damage?

About 1,500 to 2,000 people were ordered to evacuate as authorities worked to prevent an explosion at the accident site. About 7.5 miles of streams were poisoned from the chemicals, killing 3,500 fish and other wildlife. Federal and state agencies that work to protect the environment reported that toxic substances have spread into the air, ground, and surface water.

### What has happened since the accident?

Some people returned to their homes, but many did not. "The chemical smell was so strong that it made me nauseous," resident Amanda Greathouse told CNN. "I just wanted to quickly pick up what I needed and leave." Others said they had been having headaches and skin rashes. Norfolk Southern reported that 15,000 pounds of contaminated soil and 1.1 million gallons of contaminated water had been removed from the accident site. Officials tested more than 500 homes and found no problems with air quality. Residents said they are concerned about long-term health problems caused by the lingering chemicals.

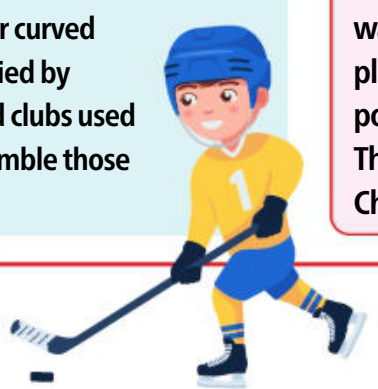
### What will happen next?

The US government is providing assistance to East Palestine. Residents have been told to use bottled water until running water is proven safe. A medical clinic will open to treat health problems related to the accident. Lawsuits (legal disputes) against Norfolk Southern have been filed.

## WORD OF THE WEEK

**HOCKEY**

**The game of hockey is recorded as far back as the 16th century in Ireland. Its name is probably based on the French word** hoquet**, meaning "little hook," which was used to describe the "crooks" or curved sticks traditionally carried by shepherds. The hooked clubs used by hockey players resemble those shepherds' crooks.**

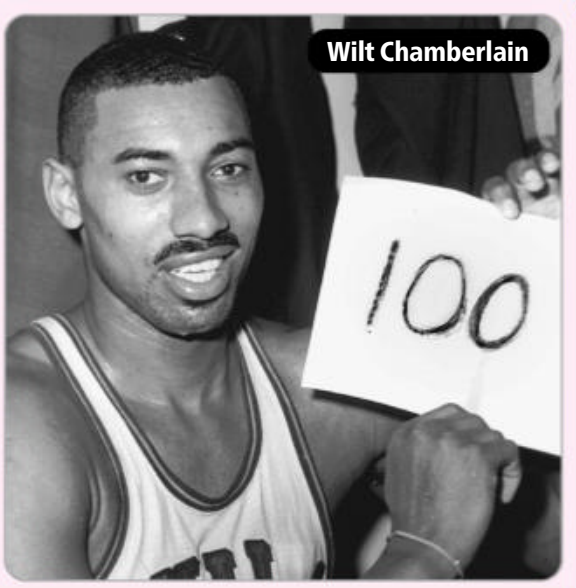


## THE WEEK IN HISTORY

### March 2, 1962

Wilt Chamberlain breaks NBA record

**On March 2, 1962, Philadelphia Warriors center Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points during a National Basketball Association (NBA) game against the New York Knicks. It was the most points ever scored by an NBA player in a game. When he made his 100th point, fans swarmed the court in celebration. The Warriors won the game, 169 to 147, and Chamberlain's record remains unbroken.**




Wilt Chamberlain

## National Reading Month begins

National Read Across America Day, the largest annual celebration of reading, is set for March 2. The event marks the start of National Reading Month and aims to inspire people to enjoy the written word. It is part of a larger yearlong program called Read Across America that promotes diverse books with monthly themes. The March theme is Bring Communities Together. You can find ideas for marking the day at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-ReadAmerica.

Michael Jordan

## Record donation to help children

Basketball legend Michael Jordan celebrated his 60th birthday by donating $10 million to the Make-A-Wish foundation, which fulfills the wishes of children with serious illnesses. The gift is the largest the organization has received from one person. Jordan has fulfilled wishes for hundreds of children since granting his first one in 1989 and was named Chief Wish Ambassador in 2008.

## Minnesota snowplows named

The Minnesota Department of Transportation announced the top eight winners of its Name a Snowplow contest. After 64,075 votes were tallied, first place went to "Yer a Blizzard, Harry" (a reference to a line in the Harry Potter franchise). "Blizzo" came in second, and "Clearopathtra" took third place. The winning names will appear on snowplows used across the state.

**LASTING LEGACY**
Jimmy Carter has written more than 30 books, including a children's book illustrated by his daughter, Amy.

Former US President Jimmy Carter in 2016

# Nation focuses on Jimmy Carter

On February 18, it was announced that Jimmy Carter—the 39th US President and at age 98 the longest-living President in US history—had entered hospice care. Hospice refers to compassionate care provided at the end of a person's life.

"After a series of short hospital stays, former US President Jimmy Carter decided today to spend his remaining time at home with his family" and not receive any "additional medical intervention," a statement from the Carter Center said. The center was founded in 1982 by Carter and his wife, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, to improve peace in the world.

A grandson, Jason Carter, said on social media that he had seen the former President and First Lady the day before. "They are at peace and—as always—their home is full of love," he said.

James Earl Carter Jr. (known as Jimmy), a Democrat, was a Georgia state senator and governor before being elected President in 1976, defeating Gerald Ford. He served one term and lost the next election, in 1980, to Ronald Reagan. Prior to entering politics, Carter served in the Navy and operated his family's peanut farm in Plains, Georgia, where he was raised.

After leaving the White House in January 1981, Carter returned to Georgia and devoted himself to helping those in need in the US and around the world. In 2002, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for "his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development."

Jimmy Carter during his Presidency

The announcement that Carter was nearing the end of his life inspired an outpouring of tributes. "This man moves humanity forward every single day. He is such an inspiration," Maria Shriver, a journalist who is the niece of former President John F. Kennedy, wrote on social media. When *The Week Junior* went to press on February 21, Carter remained in hospice care.

## THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

**"Bear takes a swim in California family's backyard pool"** *UPI*

ALAMY; GETTY IMAGES (4); ON LEFT PAGE: AP (2); GETTY IMAGES (2)

# Around the world

The ice rink in colder times

## Ottawa, Canada
### World's largest ice rink may not open

The largest ice rink in the world is in danger of remaining closed for the winter for the first time in 50 years due to warm weather. Ottawa's Rideau Canal Skateway is 4.8 miles long and winds through the city. In recent years it has attracted an average of 22,000 people a day during winter. It needs two weeks of very cold temperatures to freeze, and Ottawa is having its third warmest winter on record.

The structures

## Yucatán Peninsula, Mexico
### Ancient homes discovered

Researchers have discovered structures in the ancient Mayan city of Chichen Itza that they believe were homes for the city's wealthiest people. The city was founded in the 5th century, and the structures include an entrance arch and two houses located where the city's ruler and his family would have lived. Researchers said they hope the discovery will provide information on what life was like for elite families at that time.

São Sebastião after the rain

## São Paulo, Brazil
### Rainstorm hits coastal areas

Heavy rain has caused flooding and landslides along Brazil's southeastern coast. More than 23.6 inches of rain fell in the town of São Sebastião in 24 hours—twice the amount expected for the entire month. When The Week Junior went to press, hundreds of people had been evacuated from the area and at least 40 people had died.

## Scotland, United Kingdom
### Leader to step down

In a surprise announcement, Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's first minister, said she will resign as head of the country's government. Sturgeon, the longest-serving first minister of Scotland, said she was exhausted after more than eight years in the position and that she will remain in office until a successor is chosen.

Nicola Sturgeon

## Utrera, Spain
### Synagogue found

A rare Spanish medieval synagogue has been discovered in Utrera, in southwestern Spain. The synagogue (building where Jewish people meet for religious worship) was later adapted into a hospital before being turned into a school and, most recently, a nightclub. The building was constructed in the 14th century and is one of few remaining medieval synagogues in Spain. The mayor of Utrera called the discovery "extraordinary."

The synagogue

GETTY IMAGES (4); ALAMY (4); SHUTTERSTOCK; NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS

# Around the world

The exhibition

## Paris, France
### Notre-Dame statues shown

A few days before a massive fire at Notre-Dame Cathedral in 2019, officials removed 16 life-size copper statues of biblical characters from its 18th-century spire for cleaning. The statues are now on display at the City of Architecture museum in Paris. The exhibition looks at the cathedral's history and its restoration, including remaking the roof.

The Depot

## Rotterdam, Netherlands
### Art storage building gets recognition

Architectural Digest magazine has included The Depot in Rotterdam on its Works of Wonder list for 2023. The bowl-shaped building is the world's first art storage facility that welcomes visitors. Its six floors house more than 151,000 works that museums do not have space to show, and people can visit to see how they're taken care of. Architectural Digest describes The Depot as "reinventing art storage."

Viewing the mosaics

## Florence, Italy
### Visitors get closer look at mosaics

One of Florence's most famous buildings is the Baptistry of San Giovanni, an ancient church named after Saint John the Baptist. Mosaics on the ceiling of the church are being cleaned, which takes about six years. However, rather than closing the church to the public, officials will allow a small number of visitors at a time to walk along the scaffolding used by the restorers to see the ceiling mosaics at eye level.

## Nairobi, Kenya
### Electric buses coming to capital

Kenya's capital, Nairobi, is known for its colorful minibuses called matatus. When the buses, which contribute to pollution, shut down during the pandemic, the air cleared up enough for people to see Mount Kenya about 90 miles away. Now a company has set a goal of having 100 electric buses on the road by the end of 2023 and 1,000 by 2025. About 90% of Kenya's electricity comes from renewable sources.

An electric bus in Nairobi

The cleanup has begun.

## New Zealand
### Recovery under way after cyclone

Cleanup efforts have begun in the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle, a powerful storm that left at least 11 people dead and caused damage that may exceed $8 billion. To help with the recovery, the government has extended its state of emergency (special powers to deal with a crisis). Search and rescue teams are still working in some areas to help people affected by the cyclone.

# Are e-books better than real books?

**Some say the convenience of a digital book beats the benefits of reading a hard copy.**

## What you need to know

- **An electronic book—known as an e-book—is the text and art of a book published in digital form.**
- **In 2022, sales of e-books in the US totaled about $1 billion, while hardcover and paperback book sales hit $9.1 billion.**
- **In a survey, 30% of Americans who read books chose e-books, while most still prefer print books.**
- **Research shows that comprehension increases when people read books in print, rather than in digital form.**

**THAT'S WILD**
Where the Wild Things Are is the most borrowed book in the Brooklyn Public Library's 125-year history.

Dr. Seuss once wrote, "You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book!" Back then, of course, he meant a book printed on paper, but today that's not the only way to read one. People can choose to read a traditional hardcover or paperback, or they can read a digital version on a tablet, e-reader device, or computer. No matter what format people prefer, they still need to pay to buy books or sign up to "borrow" them from the library. Many people say e-books are convenient and easy to carry, but others like the feel of a physical book. What do you think? Are e-books better than real books?

### Yes—they can easily go anywhere

If you like to take a book along when you go out, you can't beat the convenience of an e-book. You can download hundreds—even thousands—of e-books onto one lightweight, portable device that's easy to carry, whether you're going to school or on vacation. Print books are heavy, and it's inconvenient to carry more than one at a time. And with e-books, there's barely anything to store, so you don't have to worry about shelf space in your home. E-books are also better for the environment. They reduce paper use and printing costs, and the books don't have to be shipped to bookstores on trucks that contribute to air pollution.

### No—print is part of the experience

There's nothing better than the feel of a real book, from the weight of it in your hand to the satisfaction of turning each page. It's part of the experience of reading—just like going to a library or bookstore, browsing bookshelves, and flipping through a book. Scrolling through a device isn't the same. And not every kind of book translates well to digital. Graphic novels, for example, are harder to read in e-book form. Plus, e-books can require expensive devices that need to be charged, as well as internet access to download books. That's not always possible or convenient. A printed book doesn't have to be connected to be enjoyed.

### YES Three reasons why e-books are better than real books

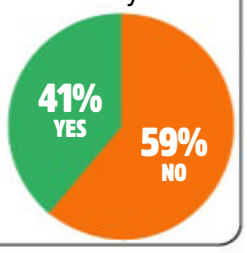
1. **One light and portable device can hold hundreds or thousands of e-books, letting people read anywhere.**
2. **An e-book collection doesn't require any shelf space to be stored at home.**
3. **E-books reduce paper use, printing costs, and transportation, which has a major environmental impact.**

### NO Three reasons why e-books are not better than real books

1. **Nothing can replace the experience of holding a physical book or wandering the aisles of a library or bookstore.**
2. **Some books, like graphic novels, can lose their visual impact in e-book form.**
3. **E-books can require things not everyone has: devices that need to be charged and internet access to download books.**

### LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if it's OK to sell fossils for big bucks. A majority of you think they shouldn't be sold: 59% of you said no, and 41% said yes.




### What do you think?

**Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think e-books are better than real books or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.**

**The goal of the big debate** is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

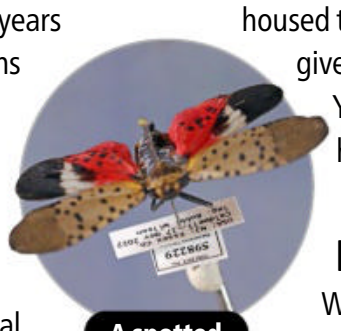
GETTY IMAGES

# Young scientist honored

## Fourth grader Bobbi Wilson's work to protect trees earns major recognition.

When Bobbi Wilson, a 9-year-old from Caldwell, New Jersey, learned that spotted lanternflies in her area were damaging trees, she decided to do something about it. The insects, an extremely harmful species that feed on fruit crops and trees, have infested New Jersey trees so much in recent years that officials have asked citizens to kill them on first sight.

To help, Wilson created a homemade repellent that would allow her to kill and collect the insects. After a wrongful incident drew national attention to Wilson and her project, the 27 lanternflies she collected became part of Yale University's database of animal research.



A spotted lanternfly

### Making headlines

When Wilson was spraying lanternflies in her neighborhood last fall, a neighbor incorrectly reported Wilson to the police as a suspicious person. The neighbor is white, and Wilson is Black. The incident was quickly resolved but sparked conversations about racial discrimination. Wilson's family spoke at a city council meeting about the unfair treatment she faced.

As the story unfolded in the news, Wilson received an outpouring of support. "She is a leading light, not just for her community but our entire state," Matt Platkin, New Jersey's attorney general, said at a local ceremony in Wilson's honor. Platkin and Mikie Sherrill, a US Representative from New Jersey, honored Wilson with an award for environmental stewardship.

### Research achievement

The tributes to Wilson didn't stop there. On January 20, the Yale University School of Public Health welcomed Wilson and her family to campus. She toured science labs and met Black female scientists. Assistant professor Ijeoma Opara, who organized the event, said Yale wanted to show Wilson "how inspiring she is."

Wilson's lanternfly collection was officially entered into the database of the university's Peabody Museum of Natural History—the first lanternflies to be housed there—and Wilson was given the title of donor scientist. You can find out more about her collection at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Lanternflies.

### Inspiring others

Wilson spoke to *The Week Junior* about her experiences. She's honored to have been invited to Yale and to have her lanternfly collection in the Peabody museum. "It was surprising, and I am very proud," she said.

She also hopes her efforts to eradicate lanternflies will inspire others to help the environment. "We can all do our part to save the ecosystem," she said.

As for the neighbor's phone call, Wilson's message is that everyone can speak up about injustice. "Nobody can tell you that you can't stand up for yourself," she said.

Bobbi Wilson with her lanternfly collection

Wilson, front center, at a ceremony in New Jersey to honor her

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The spotted lanternfly, a species native to Asia, was first identified in the US in 2014.

A Yale staffer and Wilson discussing the lanternflies

Wilson with her parents at Yale University

YALE; YALE PEABODY MUSEUM; COURTESY OF BOB RUSSO; ANDREW HURLEY/YALE; COLIN POITRAS/YALE

**DID YOU KNOW?**
A baby chimp spends its first five months clinging to the fur on its mother's belly and later rides on her back.

Apes use gestures to communicate.

## Baboons walk upright

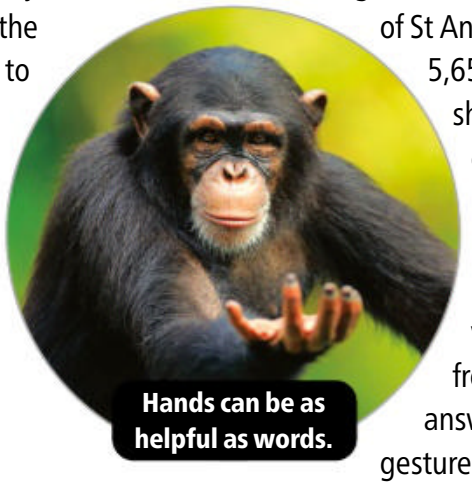
Scientists have discovered that baboons can easily switch from walking on four legs to walking on two. Researchers encouraged 10 olive baboons to walk upright. The animals could do it quickly without using more energy. One scientist said it shows that walking on two legs is not as hard as it looks.

A baboon

# Humans recognize ape gestures

Scientists have known for a long time that humans and other apes, such as gorillas and chimpanzees, have many physical similarities. New research shows that we may also share a language—because we use the same physical gestures (signs) to communicate.

Researchers already knew that great apes (a family of apes that are very closely related to humans, including bonobos, chimpanzees, orangutans, and gorillas) use more than 80 gestures to communicate with each other. Scratching their chests is a way to say "groom me" to another ape, while pointing their fingers down beside them means "come here." The apes might also ask for food from each other by cupping a hand under another ape's chin.



Hands can be as helpful as words.

To test whether humans can understand these gestures, scientists from the University of St Andrews in Scotland gathered 5,656 volunteers. The team showed them 20 videos of chimpanzees and bonobos making their 10 most common gestures. After watching each video, the volunteers had to choose from a list of four possible answers to guess what the apes' gestures were communicating.

One group of volunteers was told what the apes had been doing, such as eating or resting, before they made each gesture. This group correctly guessed the meaning of the gestures 57% of the time. The other people, who were not given information about the apes' activities, still succeeded 52% of the time. This suggests that the correct answers were not just luck and that humans tend to understand what apes' gestures mean. People were even able to understand gestures that had multiple different meanings.

Scientists need to do more work to find out exactly why humans understand the gestures. Researcher Kirsty Graham told BBC News that the gestures could be something that both humans and apes shared with our last common ancestor. It is also possible that although humans evolved to have a spoken language, we may have maintained our ability to use body movements to communicate.

## PLACE OF THE WEEK

### Boston Harbor Islands, Massachusetts

**This collection of 34 islands and peninsulas stretches from downtown Boston into the Atlantic Ocean. It is a national and state park, featuring rocky shores, hiking trails, and a 274-acre conservation area called World's End, designed by the landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. Visitors can see jellyfish drifting near the docks, lobsters underwater, hawks soaring above, and colorful birds flitting among the trees—including bright blue-green tree swallows, red-winged blackbirds, and the American goldfinch. The park also attracts nearly 1,000 shorebirds.**

A northern harrier hawk

**FUN FACT**
Echidnas have no teeth, but they do have a 6-inch tongue for catching food.

Echidnas blow snot bubbles and do belly flops.

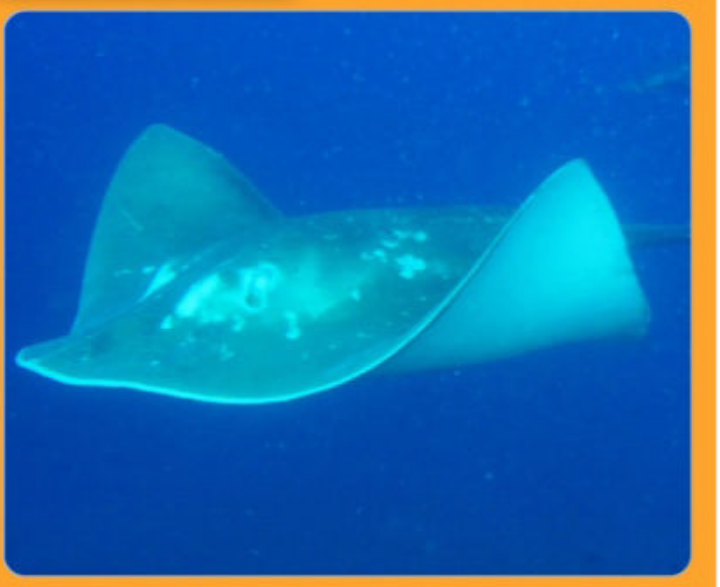
# How spiny anteaters keep cool

Around the world, animals and humans have adapted their own ways to keep themselves cool in the heat. New research has revealed that one mammal species in Australia, the echidna (also called the spiny anteater), uses two unusual methods: snot bubbles and belly flops.

Echidnas aren't as good at dealing with heat as other animals. They're covered in spines that act like a blanket, and they don't sweat, lick themselves, or pant to cool down. To find out how echidnas were coping with Australia's hot weather, scientists studied them with infrared cameras, which use colors to show how hot or cold the surface of an object is.

The study found that echidnas blow bubbles of snot, which then burst and wet the tips of their snouts. This cools the blood under the snout's skin, which is then pumped around the body to lower their temperature. In addition, belly flops on shady surfaces help them cool the skin on their legs and stomachs. This research will help scientists understand how to protect echidnas as the planet gets warmer.

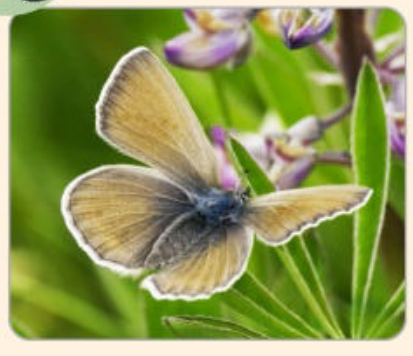
## Animal of the week: Smalleye stingrays



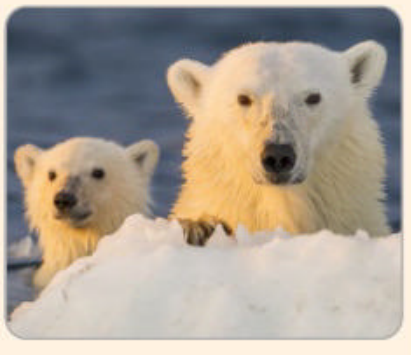
**Scientists have tagged 11 wild smalleye stingrays to learn about their behavior and movement. It's the first time smalleyes—the ocean's largest stingray—have been tagged. The new data may guide future efforts to conserve the rare species.**

- **LIFE SPAN:** Estimated to be at least 15 years
- **HABITAT:** In the Indian and Pacific Oceans
- **SIZE:** Up to 10 feet long
- **DIET:** Likely worms, crustaceans, and small fish
- **FUN FACT:** Each smalleye stingray has a unique pattern of white spots on the top of its body.

## Good week / Bad week



**Fender's blue butterfly**
**The Fender's blue butterfly, a species found only in Oregon's Willamette Valley, is no longer considered endangered by the US government. The population has recovered, rising from fewer than 4,000 butterflies in 2000 to about 29,000 in 2016.**



**Polar bears**
**Scientists are concerned that global warming could lead to an increase in potentially dangerous encounters between polar bears and humans,** The Washington Post **reported. As sea ice melts, polar bears spend more time on land, near people.**

## Ask a zookeeper: "How do parrots copy what we say?" Vivaan, 11, North Carolina

**Shelby Burns**
Animal Keeper,
Smithsonian's National Zoo

**Parrots can perfectly imitate the pitch and expression of a person speaking. They can also understand the meaning of a sound and reproduce it to communicate with humans. This process is called "vocal learning." Some parrots can learn hundreds of words!**

A macaw

**Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to** hello@theweekjunior.com.
**Find out more about Smithsonian's National Zoo at** nationalzoo.si.edu.

JAY CORRIVEAU; GETTY IMAGES (4); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (5)

# A festive holiday of

**The annual tradition of Holi ushers in the season of spring.**

Holi is an ancient festival celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and some Buddhists in India, Nepal, and other countries around the world. This year Holi, also known as the Festival of Colors, will be observed on March 7 and March 8.

Lord Vishnu

## The history of Holi

Holi (pronounced HOE-lee) has been celebrated in India since at least the 4th century. There are several Hindu legends about the holiday's origins. One of the most popular involves the legend of a demon king, Hiranyakashipu. The god Lord Vishnu, in the form of his ferocious half-lion avatar Narasimha, kills the king. This symbolizes the triumph of good over evil that is celebrated during Holi. Holi also marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring.

A bonfire during Holika Dahan

## How Holi is celebrated

Holi is observed on the last full moon of the Hindu lunar month Phalguna, which falls in February or March. The first evening of Holi is known as Holika Dahan, or Choti Holi. After sunset, a large bonfire is lit, symbolizing the burning of evil spirits. People gather around the fire to perform religious rituals and sing and dance. The following day, one of the most popular Holi traditions takes place. People–especially children–gather outdoors and throw *gulal*, colored powder in brilliant hues, at one another. Temples are also decorated in vibrant colors, and family, friends, and neighbors get together to share festive foods and beverages.

**FUN FACT**
Children often throw water balloons filled with bright liquid colors during Holi.

**BRIGHT SIGHT**
Some of the natural colors used during Holi are derived from indigo, sunflower, and marigold flowers.

Children play with colors at a Holi celebration in Chennai, India.

## Festival food and drinks

### Thandai

Made with milk, rose water, and almonds, thandai is a chilled drink meant to help people cool down after a day of Holi celebrations.

### Gujiya

One of the foods that is most associated with Holi is gujiya, a deep-fried crust stuffed with khoya (a sweet dairy filling), dried fruits, and coconut. Gujiya is a dish that is typically made at home.

GETTY IMAGES (8); STEVEN GERNER VIA FLICKR

# color and joy

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Diwali, the most popular Hindu holiday, is known as the Festival of Lights.

Powders in Holi colors

## Colors and meaning

Each color used in the celebration of Holi has a significant meaning in Hindu. Yellow stands for happiness, pink means youth and good health, green represents new beginnings, blue signifies calm, purple represents peace and wisdom, orange means courage, and red evokes love. The colors white and black, however, are not used. White is associated with funerals and ceremonies that mark death, and black is associated with evil and negativity.

A Holi celebration in Spanish Fork, Utah

## Holi around the world

The biggest Holi celebration outside India happens in the UK city of Leicester, which has a large population of people with Indian heritage. In Madrid, Spain, hundreds of people wearing white come together every year on the well-known Plaza de Agustin de Lara to celebrate Holi with the traditional tossing of colorful powders. In Mauritius, an island country in the Indian Ocean, stores start decorating in rainbow colors a week before the holiday begins. The largest celebration in the US is the Holi Festival of Colors, held at an important Hindu temple in Spanish Fork, Utah. About 70,000 people attend each year.

## Dahi bhalla

This savory dish eaten during Holi consists of fried lentil fritters covered in yogurt and typically topped with chutneys and spicy powders. In India, dahi bhalla is often sold by street vendors.

## Lassi

Lassi is a chilled drink that is similar in texture to a smoothie. Made with buttermilk, it comes in different flavors such as mint and rose and is another popular beverage to drink during Holi.

The flower has been encased in amber for millions of years.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
The oldest known fossil of a flowering plant, found in China, is 174 million years old.

# Flower fossil identified

Scientists in Europe have discovered that the world's largest flower fossil encased in amber is a different species of plant than it was previously believed to be. The team said their discovery provides further evidence of how different Europe's climate was millions of years ago.

Amber was formed when a sticky substance called tree resin oozed out of trees and hardened. Plants and animals could get trapped in the resin and be preserved in the amber as fossils (impressions or traces of ancient plants and animals).

This particular fossil is about an inch long, which is about three times bigger than the next largest plant fossils in amber that have been found. Believed to be 34 to 38 million years old, it was discovered about 150 years ago in what is now Russia. At the time, it was classified as a species called Stewartia kowalewskii. Today it is stored at the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources in Berlin, Germany.

Eva-Maria Sadowski from the Natural History Museum in Berlin became interested in examining the flower after hearing about its large size from a colleague. Upon examining the fossil, she discovered grains of pollen preserved in the amber, meaning that the flower was likely encased while it was releasing pollen. Sadowski worked with Christa-Charlotte Hofmann from the University of Vienna, in Austria. They used a scalpel (knife) to remove a small sample of pollen from the amber, which they then viewed under an extremely powerful microscope.

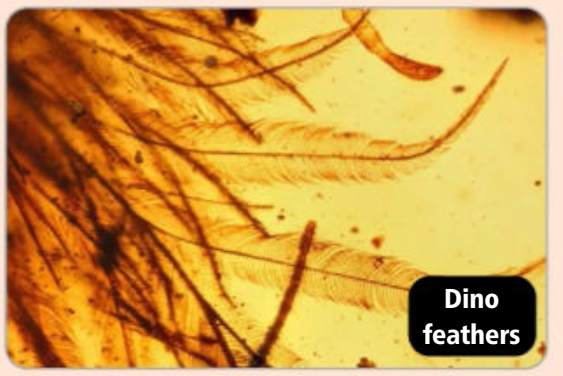
Eva-Maria Sadowski

Based primarily on their analysis of the pollen, they concluded that the fossil was a Symplocos plant, which currently exists only in East Asia, not in Europe. The species of the flower in the amber was a previously unknown one, which the scientists named Symplocos kowalewskii. This is the first fossil from a Symplocos plant discovered in the region.

Symplocos plants are flowering shrubs and small trees that thrive in humid, tropical climates. When the Symplocos kowalewskii was alive in Europe, the climate there was warmer and had more rainfall. "This new knowledge helps us to gain deeper insights into the forests of Earth's history and to understand their evolution in time and space," Sadowski said.

## Other fossils in amber

More animals than plants have been found preserved in amber. Here are three examples discovered in Myanmar, in Asia.



Dino feathers

These tailfeathers in amber were the first non-avian dinosaur feathers ever discovered. The creature the feathers belonged to lived about 99 million years ago. All birds are technically dinosaurs, but some dinosaurs were non-avian, meaning they were not birds. Bones and traces of muscles and skin were also found.

A spider and a wasp

In a rare find, this piece of amber captured the moment a spider attacked a wasp that had gotten stuck in its web. About 97 to 110 million years old, it is the only known fossil example of a spider attacking its prey. The amber also holds the body of a second spider.

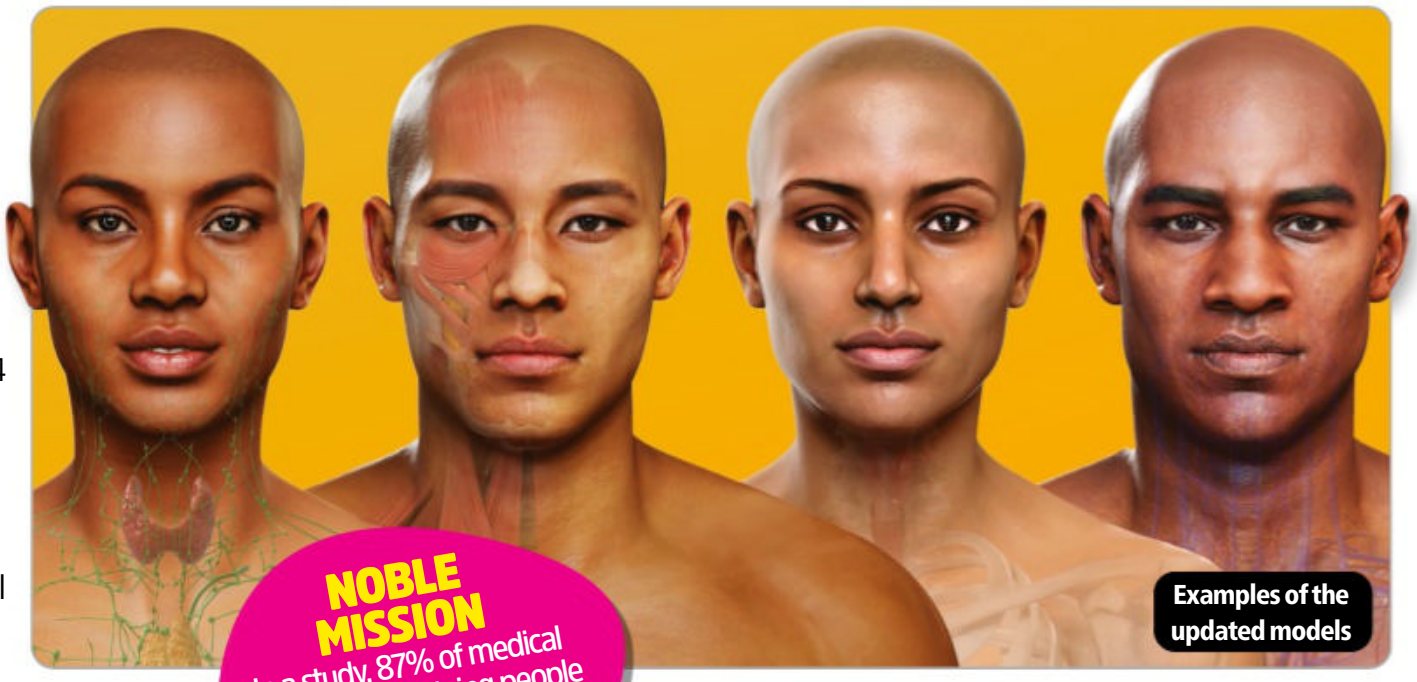
Some of the lizards

Twelve different types of lizards were found preserved in amber. The most notable was a chameleon that was nearly 100 million years old, making it the oldest known fossilized lizard by about 78 million years. Older fossils like this help scientists learn how distinct species evolved.

CAROLA RADKE/MUSEUM FUR NATURKUNDE BERLIN; HWA JA-GÖTZ; OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY; DAVID GRIMALDI CURRENT BIOLOGY; ON RIGHT PAGE: ELSEVIER; NSF/NOIRLAB; IN & MOTION

# Healthcare training to increase diversity

A widely used 3D digital platform that teaches human anatomy to healthcare providers will now include racially diverse models. Elsevier, the company that created the program, said its goal is to tackle racial bias in healthcare. Called Complete Anatomy, the platform currently has more than 3.4 million active users. It will feature "the most expansive set of skin tone selections ever available in global health education," Elsevier said.



Examples of the updated models

**NOBLE MISSION**
In a study, 87% of medical students said helping people was their main reason for becoming a doctor.

For decades, medical instructional materials almost exclusively featured white bodies. In 2018, a study found that fewer than 5% of pictures in general medical books or instructional websites included people with darker skin tones. Studies have shown that this can mean illnesses don't get correctly diagnosed as often, or as quickly, in patients with darker skin. A broader representation of people will help students learn with models that look more like the variety of patients they will see in real life. As medical providers, they will be better trained to spot and treat illnesses.

Last year, the company added 3D models of women after years of using models mostly based on men. Jan Herzhoff, president of Elsevier, said the updates are "the latest milestone on Elsevier's journey to making sure everyone feels represented…to help improve patient outcomes."

A section of the new view of the Milky Way

# Image captures billions of stars

A panoramic view of the Milky Way galaxy that shows more than 3.3 billion stars, clouds of gas and dust, and other celestial objects was released by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The giant image was created using 21,400 individual exposures captured over two years by a telescope in Chile called the Dark Energy Camera. The image shows part of the Milky Way's spiral disk, where most of its stars and dust are. Dust can absorb the light from stars, so scientists looked for certain wavelengths of light emitted by the stars.

"Imagine a group photo of over 3 billion people and every single individual is recognizable!" said Debra Fischer, a director at the NSF. "Astronomers will be poring over this detailed portrait…for decades to come." See the image, and zoom in and out on it, at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-DarkEnergyCam.

AMAZING INVENTION

# A wearable airbag pack for cyclists

The Stan with its airbag deployed

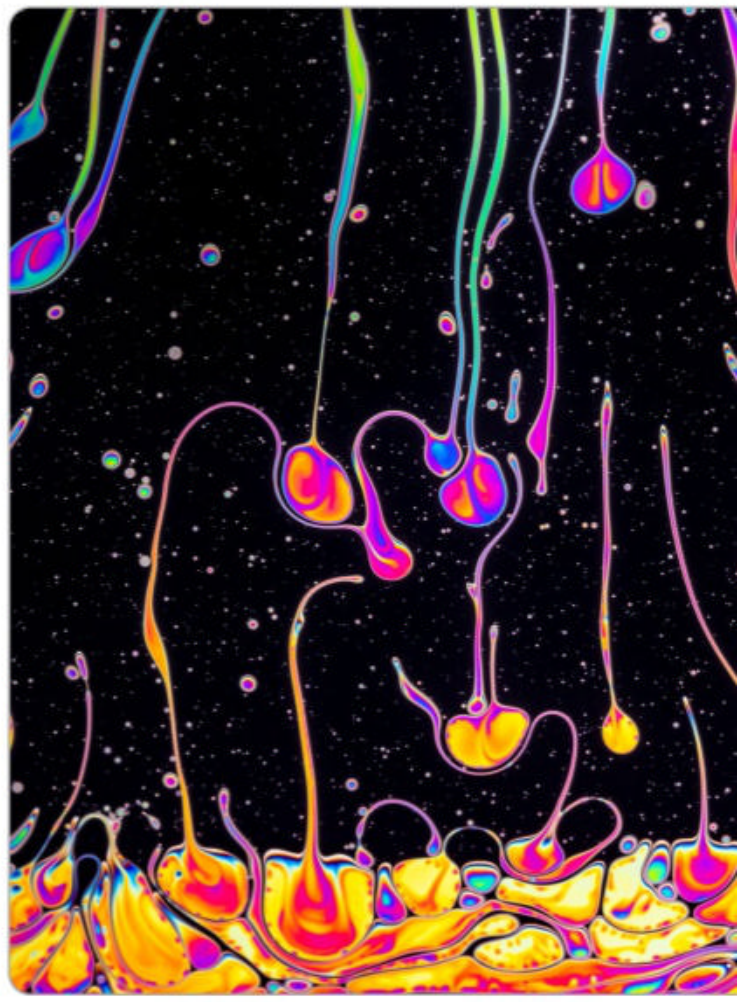
**A wearable airbag for cyclists will protect the head, neck, chest, and back in case of an accident. The Stan is worn like a backpack and contains sensors to predict and detect accidents. An airbag deploys within a tenth of a second and wraps around the rider's head and torso.**

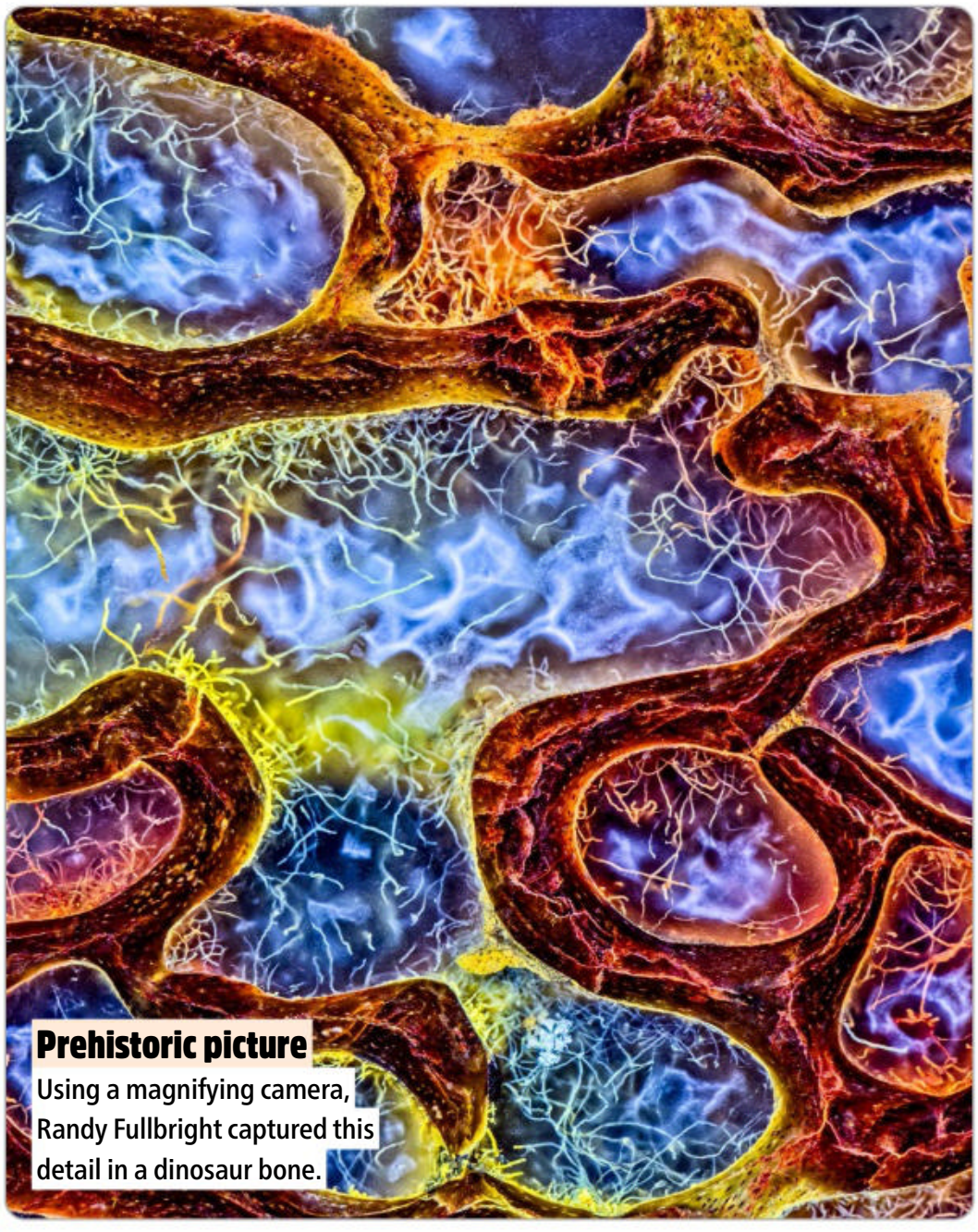
**A French company called In & Motion designed the Stan to appeal to everyday commuters, with space to carry belongings like a laptop and phone. The company's goal is to reduce the risk of head trauma by 80% compared to cyclists who are wearing a helmet alone.**

# Photos of the week

CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

**Criss-crossed cracks**
Peter Coskun photographed hardened mud patterns in Utah.



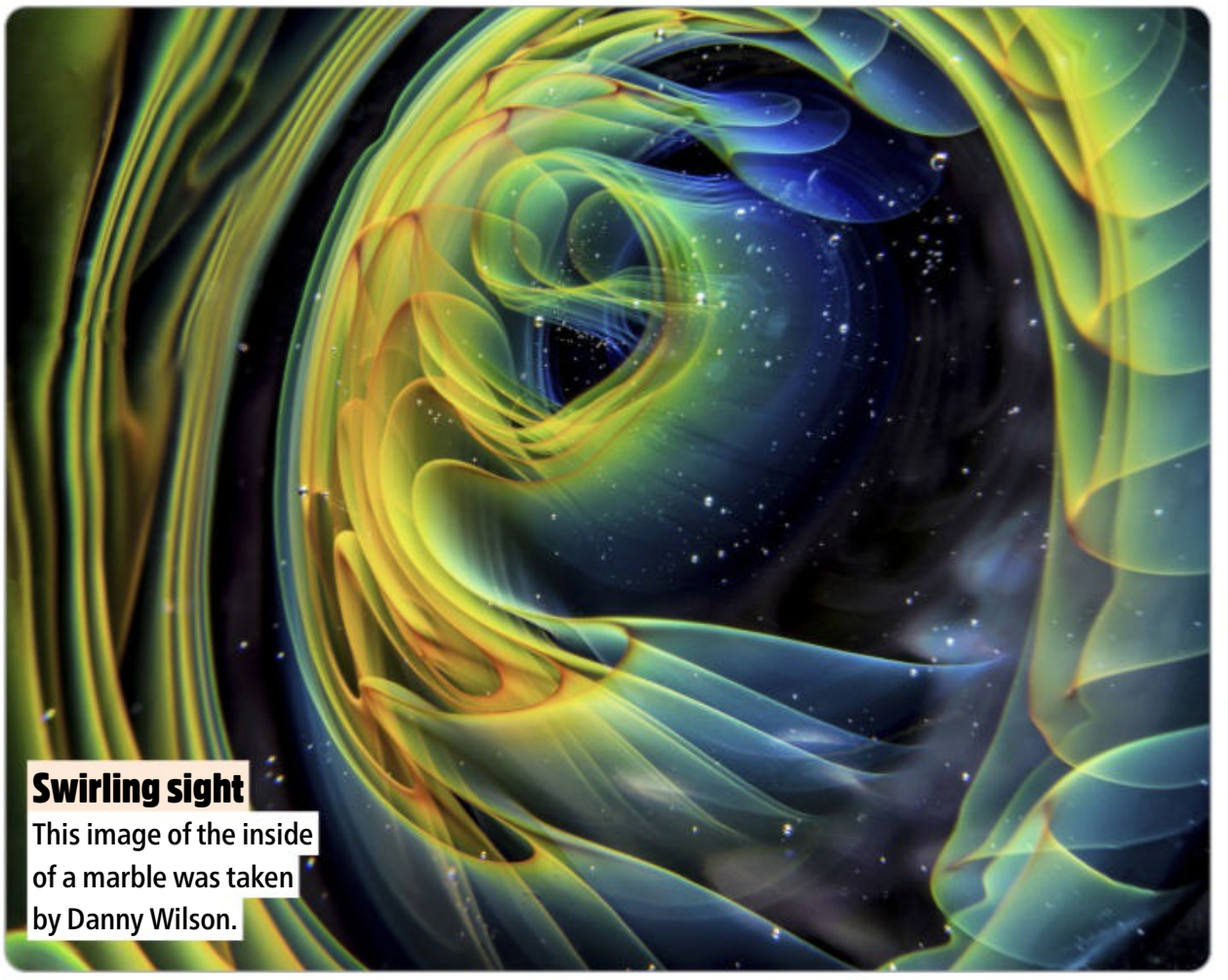


**Prehistoric picture**
Using a magnifying camera, Randy Fullbright captured this detail in a dinosaur bone.

BRUNO MILITELLI; DANNY WILSON; MAREK MIŚ; NIGEL HALLIWELL; PETER COSKUN; RANDY FULLBRIGHT

# Photos of the week

**Pops of color**
Bruno Militelli snapped this shot of a soap bubble.



**Swirling sight**
This image of the inside of a marble was taken by Danny Wilson.

**Seeing green**
Red algae resembles a cactus in this image by Marek Mis.

**Show me the ropes**
Nigel Halliwell shot this photo of fishing nets after being drawn to their blue hue.

Saki Kumagai, left, of Japan and Alex Morgan of the US

**DID YOU KNOW?**
The first international women's soccer match was played in 1881.

## NWSL expansion

**According to a recent report, the National Women's Soccer League is close to adding three new teams. The first two, which are expected to be added in 2024, will be located in Utah and near San Francisco, California. The third team will be in Boston, Massachusetts.**

# US Soccer hosts SheBelieves Cup

From February 16 to February 22, US Soccer hosted the eighth annual SheBelieves Cup in Florida, Texas, and Tennessee. The US Women's National Team (USWNT) competed in the four-team tournament against Brazil, Japan, and Canada. All four teams are ranked in the top 11 in the world. The US is number one.

The SheBelieves Cup is part of US Soccer's initiative to inspire and empower women and girls. This year, it also served as a way for teams to prepare for the World Cup, which begins in July. The US, Canada, Brazil, and Japan have all qualified for the competition.

Mallory Swanson

In the SheBelieves Cup, each team plays one match against every other team. The winner of a match earns three points. If a match ends in a tie, each team earns one point. The winner of the Cup is the team with the most total points at the end of the tournament.

The USWNT's first match was against Canada at Exploria Stadium in Orlando, Florida, on February 16. The Americans won, 2–0. USWNT forward Mallory Swanson scored both goals, and the team's defense kept the Canadian attack from putting together too many scoring chances. USWNT goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher made three saves in the win.

The Canadian team is currently in a battle with the Canadian Soccer Association over pay and equality issues. They said they were playing in the tournament under protest, and they wore purple "Enough Is Enough" T-shirts onto the field. The USWNT supports their efforts, and before their match kicked off, all the players stood with their arms around one another in a show of unity.

On February 19, the USWNT took on Japan at GEODIS Park in Nashville, Tennessee, and won 1–0. Swanson proved to be the difference once again, scoring a tremendous goal just before halftime. Japan took 15 shots, but they were able to force Naeher to make only two saves.

When *The Week Junior* went to press on February 21, the undefeated USWNT was in first place in the tournament, followed in the standings by Canada, Brazil, and Japan. The Americans were set to play Brazil on February 22 at Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas.

## THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

### BASKETBALL

**During the NBA All-Star Weekend, Mac McClung, who plays in the NBA's G League (a development league) and recently signed with the Philadelphia 76ers, won the Slam Dunk Contest on February 18. He earned perfect scores on three out of his four dunks. They included a jump over two people and a 540-degree rotation. McClung is the second player who is not taller than 6-foot-2 to earn three perfect scores.**

Mac McClung

### TRACK AND FIELD

**On February 19, Dutch runner Femke Bol broke one of track and field's oldest world records by running the women's indoor 400-meter race in 49.26 seconds. The old record stood for nearly 41 years.**

### ALPINE SKIING

**Team USA won the gold medal in the Mixed Team Parallel at the Alpine Ski World Championships on February 14. In the event, skiers from different teams race side by side. It was Team USA's first medal in the event.**

**WOW!** The fastest driver in NASCAR history reached a speed of 212 miles per hour.

Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

# Drivers compete in Daytona 500

The National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) kicked off its 75th season on February 19 with the Daytona 500 at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Florida. The winner of the competition, known as the Great American Race, was Ricky Stenhouse Jr. Until that day, he had not had a victory in 199 races.

In the Daytona 500, drivers race 200 laps around a 2½-mile oval track, meaning that each car drives a total of 500 miles. This year, two late crashes sent the race to double overtime. A record 212 laps and 530 miles were driven in the race, which was the longest Daytona 500 in history.

The race featured 40 drivers. The lead changed 52 times, and 21 different drivers were in first place at some point. Initially, it wasn't clear who won. There was a crash in the final lap of the race, and when that happens, the driver whose car is ahead when the caution flag goes up automatically wins. Stenhouse and Joey Lagano appeared to be in a tie at the time, but after a review, race officials determined Stenhouse was the winner.

Among the drivers this year was X Games and motocross champion Travis Pastrana. He earned his spot in a qualifying race and finished in 11th. He called the race "one of the most exciting things I've ever done."

Stenhouse races for JTG Daugherty Racing, which is co-owned by former professional basketball player Brad Daugherty. He is now the first Black car owner to win the Daytona 500. The team's co-owner, Jodie Geschickter, is the second female car owner to win the race.

## COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Terry Marino**

Team: **Yucaipa Mountain Bike Team**

**"Coach Marino is very passionate about mountain biking and coaching us to be the best we can be. He encourages us to not only try our best but to treat others respectfully and kindly instead of just being competitive. At a race, he waits at the finish line until everyone has completed it. He wants us to enjoy learning and building ourselves as a team so we can succeed together. Our main mottos are #werideasone and #character>speed."** Paige, 12, California

**To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com.* Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.**

## SPOTLIGHT ON...

# Haley Jones

**AGE: 21 SPORT: BASKETBALL**
**TEAM: STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

**Early start** Basketball has always been in my life. My parents were high school coaches, so I grew up on the sidelines in the gym. I liked the competitiveness of the game as well as the way it connected people. I watched people who may not find each other in overlapping social circles create lasting relationships.

**Big shot** In middle school, I realized I had the talent to pursue basketball at the highest degree possible. I played on a high school team when I was in seventh grade.

**Dream teams** I was on the 2018 US women's U-17 basketball team. We won gold at the World Cup. It was so special because the prior year I'd been cut from the team. I had to find an inner drive to come back better. Another big accomplishment was when my college team won the 2021 national championship.

**Family unit** My greatest role model has and always will be my mom. She is the strongest person I have ever known. My whole family keeps me grounded and humble. They continue to be my biggest fans while still being my harshest critics and pushing me to reach my potential.

**Playing plan** Game day is so fun! My only routine is to pick a new song for each game and dance in the locker room.

**Next goals** I would like to win another national title, graduate, and be drafted into the WNBA.

**Her advice** Never lose your love of the game, always prioritize your own well-being, and remember you are more than your sport.

GETTY IMAGES (2); STANFORD ATHLETICS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); NWSL

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Soul singer Aretha Franklin was the first woman inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

# Rock Hall nominees named

**Fourteen artists and groups from various genres are being considered for entry into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame this year.**

Each year, a new class is inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The list of nominees for the class of 2023 is out, and it includes 14 artists including country legend Willie Nelson, the R&B vocal group the Spinners, and electro-pop artist Kate Bush, whose 1985 song "Running Up That Hill (A Deal With God)" was on Netflix's *Stranger Things* last year.

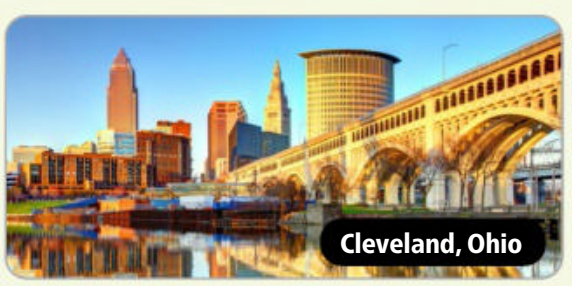
Being inducted into the Hall of Fame, based in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the biggest achievements in music. The first class was inducted in 1986 and included rock and roll pioneers Elvis Presley and Chuck Berry. Many people wonder why the Rock Hall, as it is often called, honors artists who don't play rock and roll. Chairman John Sykes has said the hall's selections are about having a rebellious "rock" attitude, not the style of music.

To be eligible for the Hall of Fame, an individual artist or band must have released their first commercial recording (a song for sale to the public) at least 25 years ago. Some people aren't nominated until years after that, and some get nominated multiple times before they are voted in.

This year, the rock duo the White Stripes and hip-hop star Missy Elliot were nominated in their first year of eligibility. "I've spent my career making the kind of music I love, and it means so much to know that I have touched others as well," Elliot said. If chosen, she would be the first female hip-hop artist in the Hall of Fame.

A group of more than 1,000 voters made up of Hall of Fame members and people in the music industry will determine who will be in the new class. Fans can also vote at vote.rockhall.com, and the top five choices will make up one ballot that will be tallied with the others. The Class of 2023 will be announced in May.

## 3 facts about the Rock Hall




### The location

New York, Chicago, Memphis, San Francisco, and other cities competed to become the home of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, with Cleveland chosen as the winning site in 1985. The city in Ohio has a population of nearly 368,000.

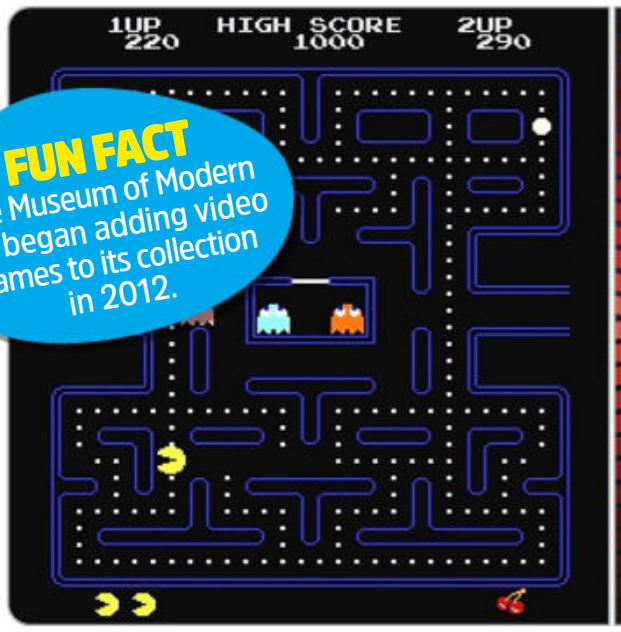
### The building

It was designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei and opened to the public in 1995. One standout feature is an inclined triangular glass wall. In 2016, the museum placed a giant red "Long Live Rock" sign in front of the building.

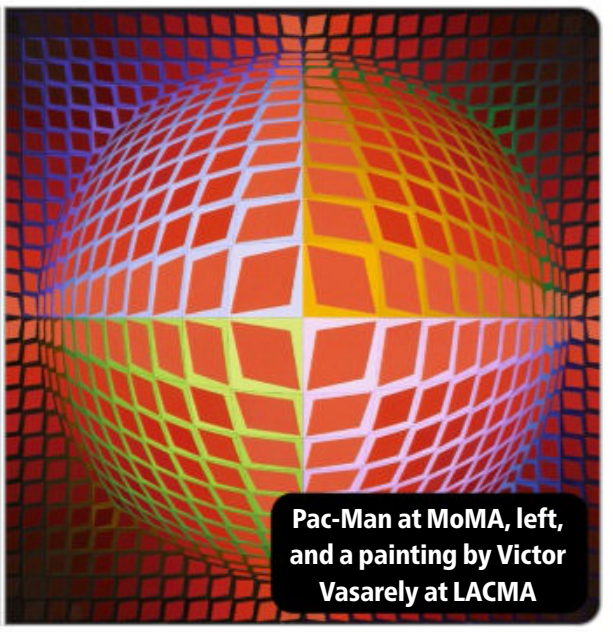
### The museum

Exhibits inside contain thousands of items, such as instruments and clothing, that belonged to top musicians. One treasure is the "Blue Angel" electric guitar, right, that was owned by Hall of Famer Prince.

GETTY IMAGES (9); ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME (2); AERIAL AGENTS/ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME




**FUN FACT**
The Museum of Modern Art began adding video games to its collection in 2012.

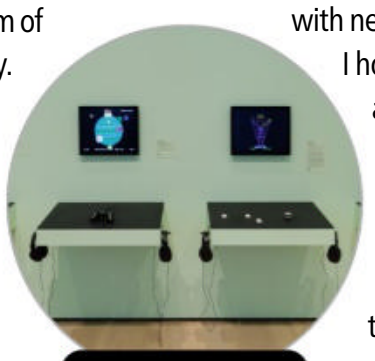


Pac-Man at MoMA, left, and a painting by Victor Vasarely at LACMA

# Exhibits on digital art and design

Two museum exhibitions are making links between the art world and the computer and digital worlds. *Coded: Art Enters the Computer Age, 1952–1982* recently opened at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) in California, and *Never Alone: Video Games and Other Interactive Design* is being shown at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City.

The LACMA exhibition focuses on the way computers changed the way people make art. It covers a time period when most computers were mainframes (giant machines that filled rooms). They were not designed to make art, but innovative artists saw them as tools to help expand their visions, Leslie Jones, a curator (person who selects art) at LACMA, told *The Week Junior*. To make a work of art, an artist would come up with an algorithmic code (set of rules for a computer) and the computer would create the work. "At the time, many people thought 'computer art'—or what we now call 'digital art'—was not real art because it was made with a machine," Jones said. She hopes the exhibition opens visitors' minds about art made with new technologies. She added, "And I hope it might inspire some young artists to learn code and make some digital art of their own."



Games at MoMA

The exhibition at MoMA, meanwhile, shows how interactive designs, from symbols to video games, can connect people and create communities. Among the items on display are 10 playable video games, including Pac-Man and Minecraft. Visitors to the museum usually have to pay to enter, but because of *Never Alone*'s community theme, people can attend for free.

## READER RECOMMENDS

**The Kicks** (Prime Video)
**"This single-season show is based on a book series by soccer star Alex Morgan. It's funny, heartwarming, and inspiring. It's about Devin, a girl who loves soccer. She is pretty good at it, too. When she and her family move to California, she joins a new soccer team. At first it sounds like they're really awesome, but it turns out they're terrible. Devin must turn bullies into friends and conquer her fears to make the team unbeatable. She may even create a few prank wars in the meantime. This show is packed with cliff-hangers, comedy, action, tech-loving little brothers, and more!"** Vidya, 12, Virginia

**Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to** hello@theweekjunior.com.

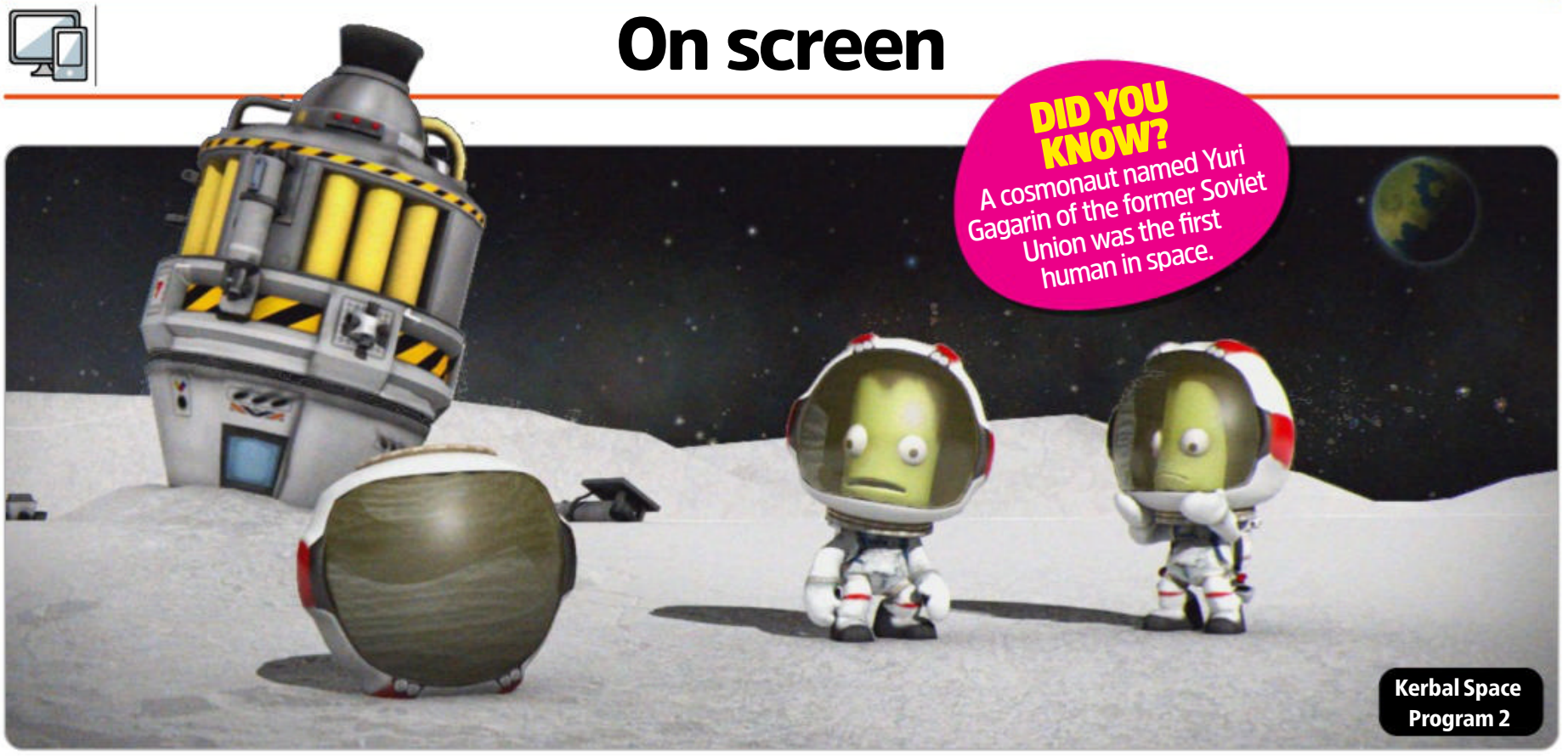
## THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

Encanto **at the Hollywood Bowl (Disney+)**
Last December, the cast of *Encanto* was filmed as they reunited for a concert event at the Hollywood Bowl, a famous open-air theater in Los Angeles, California. The performance features the film's hit songs, an 80-person orchestra, 50 dancers, special effects, and more.

**Ruthless: Monopoly's Secret History (PBS.org)**
Learn the story behind one of the world's most popular games. This new documentary delves into the mystery behind who invented Monopoly and explains how the game reflects America's economic system, which is based on private ownership of property and accumulating wealth.

**Oddballs (Netflix)**
This comedy series follows James, a bubble-shaped boy who is always ranting about what annoys him. In season two, he once again tries to fix the world along with his best friends Max, a talking crocodile, and Echo, a girl who claims to be from the future.

COURTESY OF MOMA/BANDAI NAMCO ENTERTAINMENT INC.; COURTESY OF LACMA/ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY NEW YORK/ADAGP PARIS; MOMA; DISNEY; COURTESY OF STEVE SCHAPIRO/CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY OF NETFLIX; AMAZON



Kerbal Space Program 2

# Space game sequel released

Kerbal Space Program 2 is a new space flight simulation game. An early edition of the game is out now for the PC. After players give feedback to the game's developers, an updated version will be released for Xbox systems and PlayStation platforms at a later date.

Versions of the first Kerbal Space Program came out in 2011 and 2015. The game is rooted in rocket science and physics (the science of energy and matter) and was a big hit. The sequel, which fans have been waiting for since 2019, has better graphics and design and an expanded gameplay and story.

In the new game, like the original, you run a space program on the planet Kerbin. It is populated by Kerbals, friendly green aliens who are the astronauts and engineers for the rockets, spacecraft, and orbital bodies you create. More than anything, they are test dummies, since building vehicles requires a lot of trial and error. You'll experiment with different wings, thrusters, and engines. Animated tutorials help you understand the science required to make things work.

A Kerbal

In addition to making vehicles, you'll need to design and build gigantic space colonies, which are floating cities that host adventurous Kerbals. As the colonies grow, it becomes possible to build large and powerful spaceships as well.

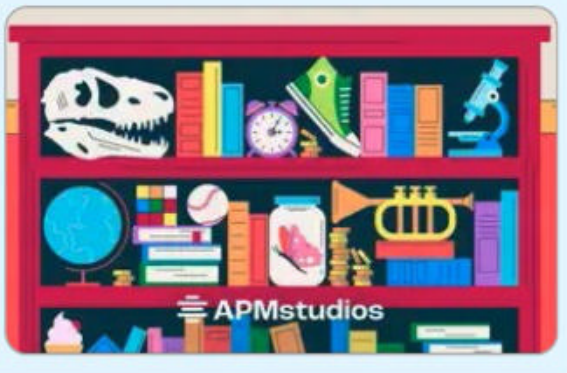
The original game limited exploration to Kerbin's solar system, but the sequel allows players to visit new galaxies. Over time, the developers plan to add a multiplayer feature and more destinations that will expand the out-of-this-world fun.

## PODCAST OF THE WEEK

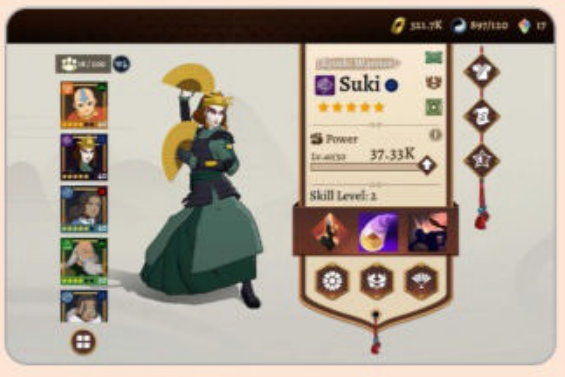
### FOREVER AGO

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-ForeverAgo

The team behind the science podcast *Brains On!* created this series. It looks back on history and the extraordinary origins of ordinary things. Episodes cover topics such as macaroni and cheese, ice cream, and electric guitars, as well as a secret astronaut testing program.




## APP OF THE WEEK




### AVATAR GENERATIONS

Apple App Store, Google Play

Fans of the *Avatar: The Last Airbender* franchise are excited about this new, free, open-world role-playing game. In it, you play as your favorite heroes, such as Aang, Zuko, or Appa, and set off on a quest across the Four Nations to help the Avatar fulfill his destiny.

## CHANNEL OF THE WEEK

### BOARD GAMES IN A MINUTE

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-BoardGames

This YouTube channel has helpful overviews of new board games. Most of the videos are about a minute long and explain what a game is all about. If you want more in-depth information, there are also longer reviews and roundups, such as one featuring the host's top 10 board games of 2022.

INTERCEPT GAMES (2); APM STUDIOS; CDE ENTERTAINMENT; @BOARDGAMESINAMINUTE VIA YOUTUBE

BOOK OF THE WEEK

# Winston Chu vs. the Whimsies

*By Stacey Lee*

(Disney Hyperion)

On his way home from cooking class, Winston falls off his skateboard. The pie he was holding splatters on two men who planned to rob Mr. Pang's Shop of Whimsies. The men run away, so the owner allows Winston to select an item from the shop as a reward. The store is packed with unusual objects, like Eggs of Truth and Far-Seeing Eyeballs. Winston ends up taking a broom and a dustpan. He doesn't think much about them until cherished items begin to go missing at home. It turns out the broom and dustpan are possessed by spirits from Chinese folklore. When Winston's sister, Coco, vanishes, he has five days to get her back. Weird weather, a flying canoe, and a unicorn piñata all play a role in this fast-paced adventure.

## WIN A BOOK!

**We're giving away five copies of *Winston Chu vs. The Whimsies.***

**For a chance to win, send your name and address to *contests@theweekjunior.com* with Winston in the subject line. Enter by midnight on March 17. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.**

ASK THE AUTHOR

## Stacey Lee

We spoke to the author of *Winston Chu vs. the Whimsies*.

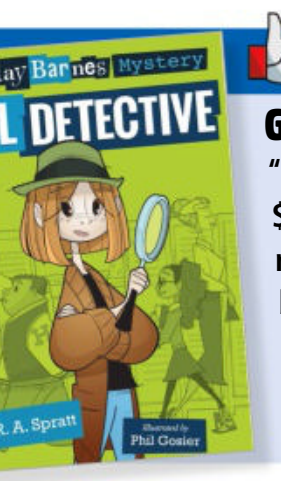
**Did you love folktales?**
Yes, but growing up as a fourth-generation Chinese American, I knew mostly Western fairy tales. I didn't read many Asian ones until I became a parent.

**Why did you feature a broom in the book?**
In traditional Chinese culture, there are superstitions about brooms, and they should only be used for sweeping. I thought a broom would make a good place for hiding magic.

**What's the best advice you have ever received?**
Don't give up. My dad always told me that, and he's right. Also, my advice to young writers is to take walks. It's good for your body, and moving your feet helps move the gears in your mind.

**If you could open a store, what would it be?**
A cozy bookstore that serves boba tea!

**Favorite pie?**
I'll go with strawberry rhubarb, which I ate yesterday.




READER RECOMMENDS

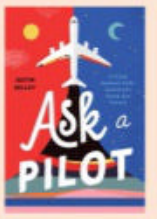
**Girl Detective: A Friday Barnes Mystery** *By R.A. Spratt*

**"In this story, a young girl detective, Friday Barnes, wins $50,000 for solving a bank robbery. She decides to use the money to invest in her education by sending herself to an elite boarding school. Once she is there, she discovers that it's a hotbed of crime! I love this book because it's both mysterious and funny, and I can't put it down."** Nisha, 10, New York

**Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.**

## 4 books that are all about airplanes

Time will fly by when you crack open one of these fascinating picks.




### Ask a Pilot

*By Justin Kelley*

(Bushel & Peck Books)

In this nonfiction book, the author, who is an airline pilot, answers more than 25 questions kids have asked him about flying. You'll find out why airplane windows are tiny and what it's like to be a pilot. The glossary at the end is helpful for any words you don't recognize. *Ages 8–12*

### Fly Girls (Young Readers' Edition)

*By Keith O'Brien*

(Clarion Books)

In the late 1920s, women who flew airplanes were often ridiculed and excluded from opportunities. But Amelia Earhart (1897–1939) and the four other female aviators featured in this nonfiction book fought for the chance to be pilots. Their stories are empowering. *Ages 10 and up*

### The Explorer

*By Katherine Rundell*

(Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

When their airplane crashes, three teens and a young child are left alone in the middle of the Amazon jungle. They build a raft and sail down the river, hoping to be rescued. Instead, they discover a lost city. Will they ever be able to get home? This survival story is perfect for fans of *Hatchet*. *Ages 8–12*

### Escape at 10,000 Feet: D.B. Cooper and the Missing Money

*By Tom Sullivan*

(Balzer + Bray)

This is the first book in Unsolved Case Files, a graphic novel series about real crimes that experts haven't cracked. This book is based on a case from 1971, when a man demanded money during a flight. It has diagrams, drawings of clues, and photos. *Ages 8–12*

BOOKS: COURTESY THE PUBLISHERS; AUTHOR: COURTESY STACEY LEE; GETTY IMAGES

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Sport climbing was made an official Olympic event at the 2020 Games in Tokyo.

# Try indoor rock climbing

**This exciting sport can help you build strength and balance.**

Indoor rock climbing is a sport that's growing in popularity every year, with approximately 6 million people in the US now participating. This adventurous activity involves ascending an imitation rock wall while secured in a harness and attached to a rope. It's a great way to build strength, coordination, mental focus, and problem-solving skills. And because it's an indoor sport, you can do it any time of year. Here's how to get started.

## Understand the basics

Indoor rock climbing is typically done at a special rock climbing gym, though some local recreation centers and schools also have climbing programs. You'll climb up and across an imitation rock wall. Climbing walls may be between 30 and 60 feet high, with hand grips and footholds all the way up. You climb while attached to a rope, to keep you safe from falling. Many indoor climbing gyms also feature bouldering walls, which are shorter and don't require a rope, making them a good option for beginners.

Choose your route.

## Get into gear

If you've seen an indoor climbing gym in your area or have friends who go to a specific one, check it out. Or visit indoorclimbing.com, which offers a directory of climbing gyms in each state. Once you've found the gym you want to try, go to its website to find out how to sign up for an initial orientation or class. This is when an instructor will teach you how to put on your harness, use the ropes, and most important, stay safe while you climb. The gym should offer you the helmet, harness, and climbing shoes, which have rubber soles that make them extra grippy. Wear comfortable athletic clothes.

## Respect the rules

Some types of rock climbing, like free solo climbing where people scale real rocks with no ropes, can be dangerous. However, the indoor rock climbing that's good for kids is typically safe as long as you follow the rules. This is why it's important to start with an orientation, in which a trained instructor will teach you how to use the ropes and harness that protect you from falling, as well as climbing etiquette, like taking turns on the wall.

## Head on up

Get your equipment on and have the instructor check your harness and rope. When the instructor gives you the OK to start climbing, grab the colorful grips with your hands and push yourself further up with your feet. Many gyms offer routes up the wall that are coded by color, from easy to hard. Ask the instructor what colors to follow on your first few climbs. You can work up to more challenging climbs. If you like climbing, the best way to get better at it is to practice!

## 4 more adventure sports to check out

If you think indoor rock climbing sounds fun, you might also enjoy these exciting activities.

### Surfing

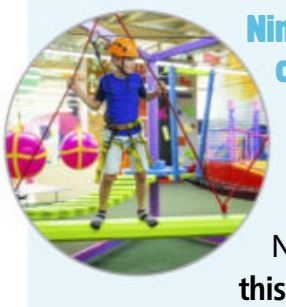
**This sport increases confidence and endurance as you stand on the board and ride ocean waves to shore. Many coastal vacation areas offer lessons for kids.**

### Mountain biking

**Riding a mountain bike on dirt trails through the woods is an exhilarating experience. See if there's a park in your area with easy dirt bike trails to try. If you like it, do another lap and work up to more technical trails.**

### Parkour

**The goal of parkour is to get through an obstacle course as fast as you can. Expect to run, climb, and jump over obstacles to get to the finish.**



### Ninja obstacle courses

**Similar to the TV show** American Ninja Warrior**, this athletic challenge can be found at gyms that offer obstacle courses. You might have a chance to climb nets, walk a balance beam, and swing over foam pits.**

# Make a silhouette portrait of yourself

## What you need

- A camera (you can use a phone camera)
- Computer and printer
- Tape
- Two different colors of paper, such as scrapbooking or origami paper
- Scissors
- White glue
- Small paintbrush
- Frame

## Instructions

**1.** Stand against a blank wall with one shoulder against it so you're facing toward the side and your profile is visible. (If you have long hair, you might want to wear it in a ponytail or bun so that it doesn't hide your neck.) Have a friend or family member shoot a photo of the side of your head, including your neck and shoulders.

**2.** Upload the photo to your computer and print it out in a size slightly smaller than your frame. (Ask for help from an adult if you need to.)

**3.** Tape your photo printout to a piece of paper in the color of your choosing. This color will be the color of your silhouette.

**4.** Using scissors, carefully cut around the head through the printout and colored paper at the same time, taking your time to carefully cut around details like eyelashes and hair. Include the neck and, if you'd like, a bit of the shoulders. You can round the bottom with your scissors to make your silhouette look a little more finished.

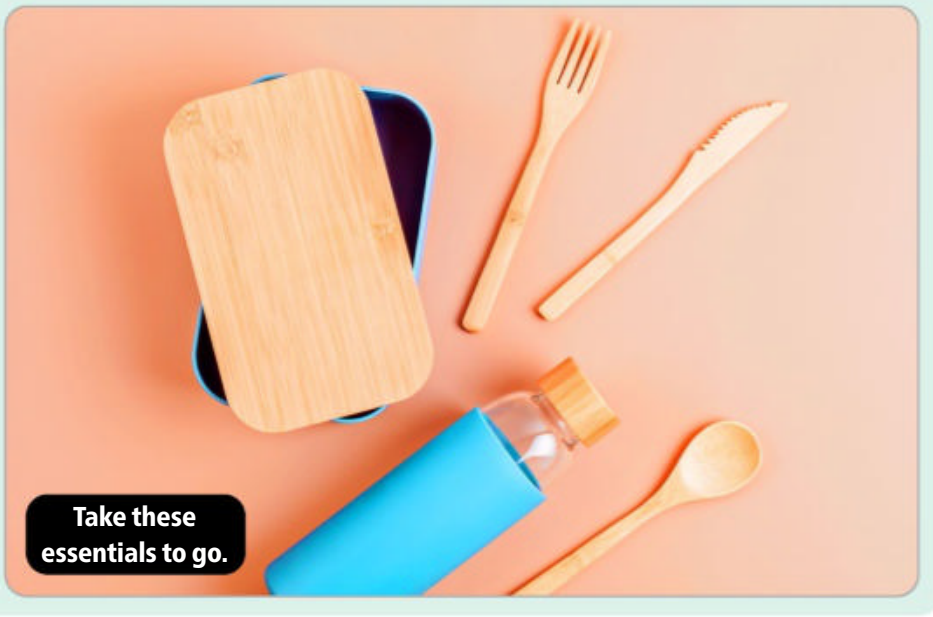
**5.** Dab a tiny bit of glue onto your paintbrush. Paint a very thin layer of glue on the back of your silhouette and adhere it to your remaining sheet of paper.

**6.** Place your finished silhouette in the frame, and hang or display according to the frame's directions.

## ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

## BUILD A ZERO WASTE KIT

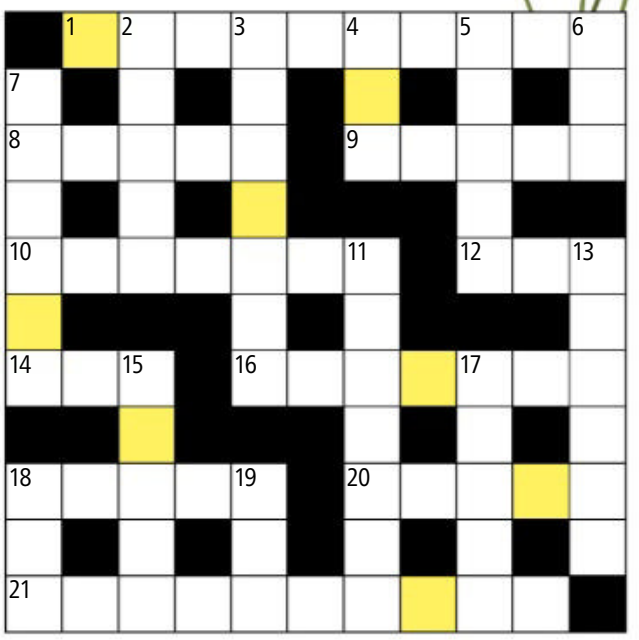
**Avoiding the use of single-use plastics like straws and takeout containers helps protect the environment and keep items out of landfills. This is easy to do at home, when you have access to all your kitchen items, but harder when you're out with your family or eating at a restaurant. One way to prepare for these situations is to keep a zero waste kit in your family's car. Grab a small box or tote bag and fill it with metal straws, cloth napkins, reusable flatware, and a food container with a lid. This way, if you get a to-go drink or take home leftovers from a restaurant, you have your own reusable straws and containers instead of the disposable plastic ones offered to you.**


Take these essentials to go.

JODI LEVINE FOR SUPERMAKEIT; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

# Keyword crossword

Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.



**ACROSS**

1 Occupation that involves pounding heated iron to make things like horseshoes
8 Opponent you try to defeat
9 Where a watch is worn
10 Dinosaur "bones" in a museum display are actually these
12 Space between two front teeth
14 Ocean
16 Quartz, potassium, or the answer to 3-Down, for example
18 Common playground equipment
20 Subject chosen to write or talk about
21 ___ party (gathering where guests wear fancy costumes and face coverings)

**DOWN**

2 One of the four words some say while pulling petals off a daisy
3 Milk and other dairy products provide this bone-building substance
4 Basic carpentry tool
5 It's used for writing "Happy Birthday" on a cake
6 Description applied to stovetops or bath water
7 Arts and ___
11 Barack Obama held this elected office before becoming President
13 Law enforcement members
15 A ram is the symbol for this zodiac sign
17 Speedy
18 Result of solving an addition problem
19 African animal also called a wildebeest

**Keyword question: More than half of the cells in the human body are not human. What are they?**

# CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of things at a circus, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list.
Hint: The X here is an uncoded Z. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Z | |
| B | Y | C | F | L | X | L |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | |
| B | K | U | Q | B | Y | D | F | L |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Y | K | R | U | W | C | M | B | L | Y |

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

# THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like POP-UP BOOK or SALT LAKE CITY.

**THREE LONG POOL PUBLIC SPEED**
**RUNNING SWIMMING BICYCLE DISTANCE**

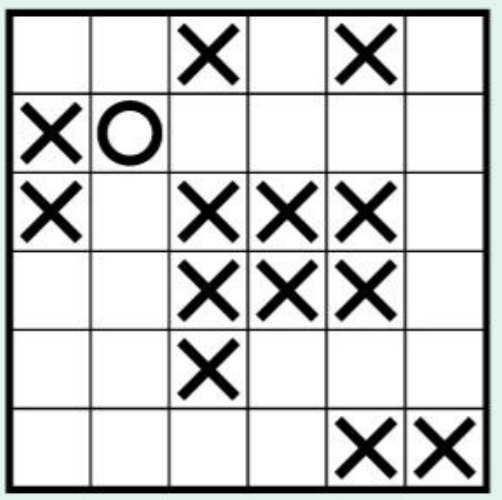
_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

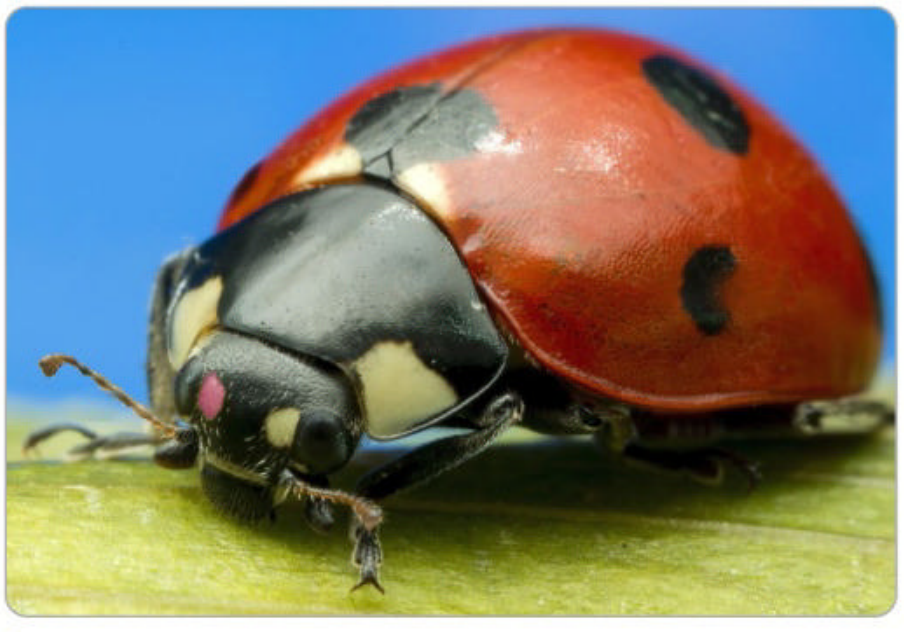
# Hit or miss

Place an X or O in each empty square so there are never more than three X's or O's in a row across, down, or diagonally. Hint: If you find three in a row of one letter, you can put the other letter into the spaces at either end.



# Spot the difference

These two close-up pictures of a ladybug appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?



PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY



**Code cracker hint:** Every F is an uncoded P.

# That's unbelievable!

They're looking for an unflappable leader.

## Seeking a "chief penguin officer"

The tour operator Antarctica21 is searching for someone to fill a rather unusual position: chief flying penguin officer (CFPO). To mark the 20th anniversary of its first expedition, the company will select one lucky candidate for a free weeklong trip to Antarctica. The CFPO's only duties will be to explore and "share in our passion for the continent," the company said. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and answer three questions about penguins. The winner will be chosen in mid-March and travel to the frozen land in December.

## Dressed up in dessert

A baker in Switzerland has concocted the world's largest wearable, edible cake dress. The delicious dress, which weighed 289 pounds and 13 ounces, made its debut at a wedding festival. Its top was made from sugar paste and fondant icing, while the bottom was held up by an aluminum frame and fitted with wheels. In order for the cake dress to qualify for the record, the model had to be able to walk about 16 feet while wearing it.

The dress looked (and tasted) great.

Coco

## A dog's long lashes

Coco, a newfypoo (Newfoundland and poodle mix) in California, has won a Guinness World Records title for the longest eyelash on a dog. The 7-inch lash was measured three times by a veterinarian, who also ensured that the extreme length won't harm Coco. "When we go out, she gets a lot of attention," Coco's owner said. "People are amazed at her lashes."

Real or fake?

Did one man go nuts for wildlife?

## A massive stash of acorns

A pest control company was inspecting a California home when 700 pounds of acorns were discovered in the walls. The homeowner had become fond of feeding birds and squirrels in his backyard and had provided thousands of acorns through the years to his furry and feathered friends. What he didn't realize is that each time he placed a batch of nuts on his roof for easy eating, they fell through a hole and got stuck in a wall. Is this story real, or is it just too nutty?*

Lope de Vega and his manuscript

## AI finds a hidden masterpiece

Artificial intelligence (AI) technology has uncovered a previously unknown literary work at the National Library in Madrid, Spain. While copying an old manuscript, an AI computer program figured out that it was a play by Lope de Vega, one of Spain's greatest writers. The work, called *La Francesa Laura* ("The Frenchwoman Laura"), is thought to have been written shortly before de Vega's death in 1635. "If it hadn't been for this new technology, we wouldn't have known about it," a literature expert said. It will soon be published to give everyone a chance to read it.

*Fake! The massive stash of acorns was found in the wall, but they were not put there by the homeowner. The culprit was a pair of acorn woodpeckers. They had stashed the nuts in the house's chimney for years, but they slipped down into the wall.

GETTY IMAGES (4); GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (2); REUTERS; COURTESY NICK CASTRO; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3)

# Your turn

## Editor's note

As we were putting this week's issue together, it was announced that Jimmy Carter, the 39th US President, was nearing the end of his life. At age 98, he has lived longer than any other former President. He was elected in 1976 and served one term before going on to have what has been described as "one of the greatest second acts in American history." He devoted himself to helping people in need and resolving conflicts around the world—"untiring effort" that earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002. When this issue shipped to the printer on February 21, tributes were pouring in for Carter and he was receiving compassionate care at his home in Georgia. You can read about him in our story on page 5, and we will provide more coverage of his life and legacy in a future issue.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

Ethan, 12 (left), and Aidan, 13 (right), Texas, with Dr. Opal Lee

# An unforgettable visit

"It's not every day that you get to meet a Nobel Peace Prize nominee or someone whose activism has created the newest federal holiday, Juneteenth. Meeting Dr. Opal Lee was surreal. We read about her in the book *Opal Lee and What It Means to Be Free: The True Story of the Grandmother of Juneteenth* but never thought we would meet her in person. Dr. Lee is kind, inspiring, and hardworking. We will never forget how she provided words of encouragement and told us we could be anything we wanted to be. We will remember this day for the rest of our lives."

**Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at *hello@theweekjunior.com*.**

**JOKE OF THE WEEK**

How do you get down from an elephant?

You can't—that's why we get down from a goose

## CHARITY OF THE WEEK

### Welcome.US

**This organization helps refugees from other countries build a new life in the US. It ensures that they have food, a place to live, and employment opportunities. Started in 2021 to welcome Afghan refugees, the organization expanded its efforts in 2022 to support Ukrainian refugees. It has donated about $15 million to more than 180 groups that help refugees to the US. Find out more at welcome.us.**

Welcome.US

## READER RECOMMENDS

### Vote for your favorite books!

**Have you read any books you've enjoyed so much you wish all kids knew about them? Contribute to our 50 Books Kids Love Most list for 2023! The reading list, with quotes from readers, will be published in *The Week Junior* in June. We're looking for at least 100 kids to fill out our voting form. If you'd like to vote, have an adult email us at *hello@theweekjunior.com* with Books Kids Love in the subject line, and we'll send the form to you. Happy reading!**

**THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN** Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

# Your turn

## YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.

**"We love the puzzle section. I brought the magazine to our hotel when we traveled. The extra big crossword puzzle was so much fun. I did it by myself!"** Elisa, 12, New Jersey

**"I had to take a break from building a snow fort when the mailman brought *The Week Junior*!"** Lachlan, 12, New York

**"We loved making the Valentine's Chex mix from the February 10 issue. It was yummy."** Madelyn, 11, and Sylvie, 9, Maine

## Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Ms. Miele**

School: **Arizona School for the Arts**

**"Ms. Miele is the best. My school had a lockdown, and she handled it calmly and helped everyone feel better. She always explains science problems in a way that everyone can understand. She is the best 6th grade teacher. She always makes sure that all her students are taken care of."**

Rose, 12, Arizona

**Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.**

## Puzzle answers (from page 26)

**Keyword answer:** bacteria

**Code cracker**
trapeze
tightrope
ringmaster

**Three for all**
three-speed bicycle
long distance running
public swimming pool

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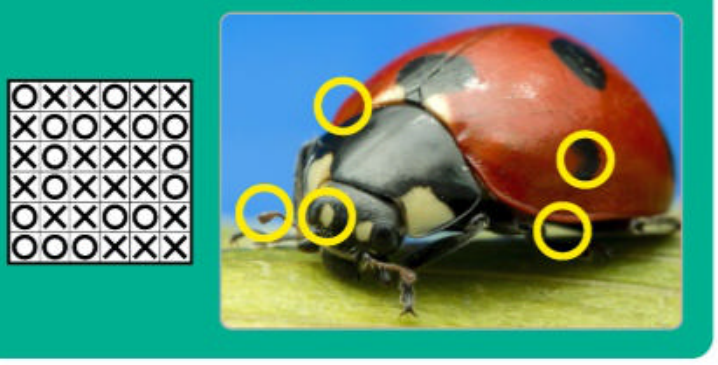

**Quiz answers** (from page 30)

**1** a) "Yer a Blizzard, Harry" **2** 14,125 **3** b) "Come here" **4** True **5** b) Great American Race **6** False. Most prefer print books. **7** a) Chile **8** A broom and dustpan **9** c) Prince **10** True **11** Spotted lanternflies **12** c) 100 **13** Holi **14** True **15** b) Chief flying penguin officer

## POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjuniorus on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What is your favorite sport to watch?

"Swimming! It's suspenseful and fun!"

"Soccer, because you never know what is going to happen next."

"Basketball. Fun to see people dunk!"

"Gymnastics! I love the gymnasts' ability to flip!"

In the big debate, we asked: Is it OK to sell fossils for big bucks?

"I think it is OK if you use the money in a good way."

"No, because it should be able to be used for science and research without a price."

"It depends on who you are selling it to, and the circumstances."

"That money could go toward museums or discovery of more fossils."

Now tell us: What is your favorite meatless meal and why?

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We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

# Quiz of the week

# How much of this week's news can you remember?

**1** What name won this year's Name a Snowplow contest in Minnesota?

a) "Yer a Blizzard, Harry" b) "Blizzo"

c) "Han Snowlo"

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**2** A recent survey showed that Japan consists of about how many islands?

**3** What do great apes mean when they point their fingers down by their sides?

a) "Sit down" b) "Come here" c) "Groom me"

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**4** True or false? In the video game Kerbal Space Program 2, players can visit galaxies outside Kerbin's solar system.

True ☐ False ☐

**5** NASCAR's Daytona 500 race is also known as what?

a) All-Star Race b) Great American Race

c) Greatest Race on Wheels

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**6** True or false? The majority of Americans prefer electronic books to print books.

True ☐ False ☐

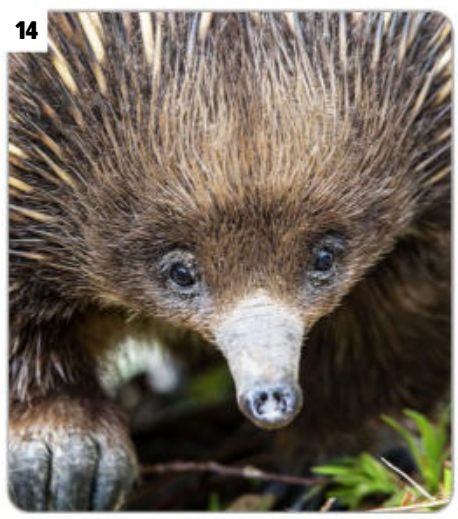
**7** A stunning new view of the Milky Way was taken by a telescope in what country?

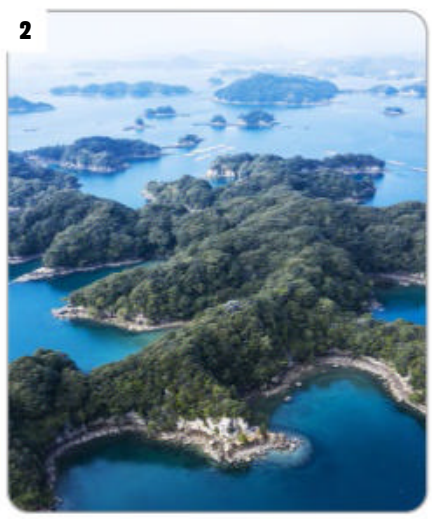
a) Chile b) Colombia c) Cuba

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**8** In the book Winston Chu vs. the Whimsies, what does Winston take from Mr. Pang's Shop of Whimsies?

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.




**9** The Blue Angel guitar on display in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame was owned by which musician?

a) Eric Clapton

b) Jimi Hendrix

c) Prince

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**10** True or false? The world's largest flower fossil encased in amber was wrongly identified for about 150 years.

True ☐ False ☐

**11** Nine-year-old Bobbi Wilson made a repellent to kill what harmful insect?

**12** How many points did Wilt Chamberlain score in 1962 to set the record for the most points in an NBA game?

a) 78 b) 81 c) 100

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**13** What spring holiday is sometimes called the Festival of Colors?

**14** True or false? Spiny anteaters blow bubbles of snot to keep themselves cool.

True ☐ False ☐

**15** A tour company is seeking applicants for what position in Antarctica?

a) Chief walrus officer

b) Chief flying penguin officer

c) Chief polar bear officer

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐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